

THE CONNECTICUT MAGAZINE.

AND

GENTLEMAN'S AND LADY'S

Monthly Museum.

No. 1.

FOR JANUARY, 1801.

Vol. 1.

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*Embellished with a beautiful likeness of the late illustrious GEN-
ERAL WASHINGTON; and an elegant engraved
title-page for the Volume,*

BRIDGEPORT:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY L. BEACH & S. THOMPSON.

ADDRESS to the PUBLIC.

HUMBLY soliciting the patronage of an indulgent Public, and candidly acknowledging our fears and forebodings, respecting the success of our undertaking, we venture to issue the first number of the *CONNECTICUT MAGAZINE*. This publication we commence with the commencement of the nineteenth Century; and with the assistance and patronage of the Citizens of the State of Connecticut in particular, and the inhabitants of the United States in general, we hope it will continue until the Century ends.

WE are aware of the many difficulties which we have to encounter, in the prosecution of this most arduous business; but without difficulty nothing great or noble can be accomplished; and should we fail in continuing the work, we have this consolation, that we have made a meritorious attempt.

A Magazine in the State of Connecticut, can, and sooner or later, will be supported: Whether we have commenced in a proper time, or whether we are the proper persons to conduct a work of such magnitude, remains for the public to judge; the present year must determine the matter.

It has been asserted by some, *that there is not genius enough in America to support the publication of a good Magazine*. This assertion, we think, must be false and unfounded. There is genius enough in the state of Connecticut to make a Magazine superior to any now published in the world. Whether we can collect, and command the fruits of that genius, is, we acknowledge, a question. We hope, however, the writers in our country will not neglect us; and we now invite and solicit communications from every person of leisure and abilities throughout the State, and throughout the World. Not only original pieces in prose and verse, but every curious and valuable literary production, whether ancient or modern, in print or in manuscript will be ac-

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ceptable. Portraits of eminent persons who have flourished, or who now flourish in America, with anecdotes of their lives, are doubly desirable; as it is our intention to embellish each number of our work with a portrait of some distinguished person of our own country.

THE first three or four numbers of the Magazine, will contain little except selected matter; but we will endeavour to select such as shall be useful and entertaining. As soon as our correspondence abroad can be established, and the articles in the Historical and Biographical lines can be compiled, we hope to present our readers with a respectable proportion of original pieces. In our selections, we shall, so far as is in our power, please every taste, except the debauched and the vicious. The Farmer, the Merchant and the Mechanic, as well as the Professional character, may hope to find amusement, if not instruction: Nor will the Ladies be neglected; they will find their share of pleasure, and, we hope of profit.

As this is the first attempt of the kind ever made in this State, we have commenced the publication on a general plan, and mean to admit essays on every subject; reserving to ourselves the privilege of judging what pieces are fit for publication, and what not. That we may judge impartially of the fitness of pieces for publication, we have formed for ourselves a rule or criterion by which every piece must be tried, and from which we shall not depart. Without some standard of judging, we should experience nothing but vexation and confusion in conducting the work. We shall not insert pieces to please the authors, unless we think they will please the public. Party spirit, personal calumny, and every thing which might excite a blush on the cheek of modesty, or a frown on the brow of the professor of Religion, will totally exclude the productions in which they are found.


THE Academy of Arts and Sciences; the Agricultural and Medical Societies of this State, and every other Society established for the promotion of Knowledge, are respectfully desired to make

our Magazine a vehicle to communicate their discoveries and observations to the public. Favours from societies will always meet with the earliest attention ; and have a conspicuous place in our Miscellany.

WE must beg it as a favour of Literary characters that they will excuse our selections, provided they are judicious ; even if they have seen them before in other publications. They will consider that a great proportion of our readers, are those who have not the advantage of extensive libraries ; and consequently many things selected from scarce books, and recent European publications, will be new and entertaining to them ; altho' to those who read every publication as it comes out, they may not be interesting. We do not despair of being able to lay many things before our Literary readers which shall be pleasing to them ; and if a proper proportion of the matter is to their taste, they will excuse the rest.

WE have it in contemplation to add to our plan a candid and impartial Review of new American publications. Likewise, a list of European publications, with occasional extracts from the London Reviews. These articles will appear as soon as arrangements can be made for the purpose. Authors and publishers who wish to have their works noticed in our review will please to send a copy of them to the publishers of the Magazine, as early as possible.

It is requested of the Clergymen of the different towns in the State, that they will transmit us the earliest accounts of Marriages and Deaths in their respective parishes. Any anecdotes of the deceased, which may be interesting to the public will be highly acceptable to the Publishers.

 A list of Subscribers names will be published at the end of each volume of the Magazine.

THE
Connecticut Magazine.

FOR JANUARY, 1801.

[In the first number of our Magazine, we present our Patrons with a striking likeness, of one of the first men that ever lived. We should, (agreeably to our plan) have given some Biographical sketches of this great man ; had we not been assured that a History of his life, from authentic materials, would soon be published. We have thought it improper to anticipate this History, from which we hope to have the privilege to make extracts, to enrich our miscellany, when it shall appear. In the room, therefore, of Biographical sketches, we now present our readers with an address, delivered at the commemoration of the death of GENERAL WASHINGTON, on the 22d day of February 1800. We are aware that the multiplicity of Addresses, Oration, Sermons, &c. which have been delivered on the above occasion, have in some measure cloyed the public curiosity : But as this Address is superior to many productions of the kind ; as the public can never be tired of hearing any thing which is well written of their departed friend ; and as the following has never been before printed, we venture to insert it ; resting entirely on its merits for public approbation.]

AN ADDRESS.

Delivered at the Commemoration of the Death of General WASHINGTON, Feb. 22, 1800.

FRIENDS and FELLOW CITIZENS,

THE occasion which calls us together, and the dignity of the subject to which your attention should be drawn, require an elevation of sentiment, and force of expression beyond my pretensions. Yet relying on your candor, I shall not detain you,

with apologies. So many and so various are the points of view, in which our subject presents itself, that to choose between them, is the most difficult part of my task. We this day, mourn the loss perhaps of the greatest man that ever lived; great, in the field of war; great, as a statesman, great, as a private citizen; great, in the hearts of his countrymen; great, in fame to the furthest regions of the earth; and we trust he will remain great in History to the latest period of recorded time. His virtues and his merits have been tried, by prosperity and adversity; through evil report, and through good report; amid the applauses of millions of Friends, and the calumnies of the few enemies he hath had. He hath endured the trial, and shown to the world, that neither one could exalt him above, nor the other depress him below what was becoming a man. While we speak of his warlike achievements, it is our honest boast and pride, that our WASHINGTON gained not his honours, by counting his thousands slain, Cities burned, and Provinces laid in ruins. Millions shall this day attest, and proclaim to the world, that his most famed victories were nearly bloodless. Such was the relief of Boston; such the victory at Saratoga, by his direction and plan, if not by his presence, and such was the capture of Cornwallis. Let others boast of battles won, of towns besieged and taken, at which humanity shudders, we boast of a nobler Hero who with an army undisciplined, unfed, unclothed, and unpaid, protracted the war, and at length by stratagem and art triumphed gloriously; baffled his enemy, and obtained the end for which he fought. We boast a Hero who despising the fame of mere courage, and intrepidity in danger, placed his greatest glory in saving the lives of his countrymen, and sparing a vanquished foe. The brute creation vie with, nay often surpass man in courage; they rush fearless on danger and death. How absurd then is the honor and applause too often bestowed on this brutal quality! It perhaps more frequently than otherwise has its source in a hard unfeeling disposition, which utterly disregards the misery of thousands, or in a depraved insensibility to all the softer feelings of humanity. How far then from deserving the name of great is he who can boast of no other perfection? And how far exalted above many who are called Heroes, stands our beloved WASHINGTON? Others whose names are recorded in History, or who are candidates for fame and renown, have led armies to battle and slaughter, but he led them to victory almost without slaughter. Others for honour and glory have drenched the earth in human blood, and a misjudging world has given them the applause they sought. But the purest regard for his country was WASHINGTON's leading motive. Of this we have such proofs as can never be controverted; for no sooner was the end accomplished for which he drew the sword, than he laid it by, returned to his farm, and enjoyed in private the reward of his toils, arising from a sense of having deserved well of his country. To exalt the man whom we delight

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to honour, need I here remind you of what you all know, that for eight years, in the midst of perils and danger, with unceasing labour of body and mind, he served his country without fee or reward : and then at the close of the war, with an army which he had created, of which he was the soul, well disciplined, and devoted to his person, he might have seized any share of power, he chose as a reward for his services. Foreign Nations suspended their opinions, or preremptorily pronounced him a King or Dictator ; while Americans better knew the man whom they had trusted. We saw him resign his command to those who gave it, and retire into the shades of private life, to cultivate with his own hands the soil which he had defended. An admiring world said it was nobly done. For this he was enthroned in the heart of every wise and good man. For this he reigned in the only way in which the wise and good would wish to reign. By this he commanded our hearts, and silenced the tongue of every enemy. By this he raised a more lasting, and more glorious monument of fame, than could have been wrought from the trappings of power and the splendours of royalty itself. Malice dare not say his motives were self-interest. Envy, however reluctant, must own that here he stands unrivalled in the book of fame. With peculiar delight and honest pride should we dwell on this theme. That our country has produced such a man, ought to be this day proclaimed as from the house tops, and engraved on every heart.)

But long he enjoyed not his beloved retirement. Providence had designed him for many other great and essential services to his country. A defective system of Government, and a deranged state of public affairs soon called for some effectual remedy. All eyes were immediately turned on WASHINGTON to take the helm of State, as once he had done that of war. To him all hands were extended imploring his aid. Reluctantly he ventured once more into the world, and put his fame at stake on an untried field of action. And why was this ? He loved his country, and was ready to sacrifice his private feelings, his individual ease and enjoyments to the common good. Yes, for us he toiled ; for us he endured days, months and years of perplexity, doubt and anxiety. That we might sleep quietly in our beds, free from the alarms of war, he spent sleepless nights in study, watching and care. That we might pursue our occupations in peace, each one sitting under his own vine and figtree, and none to make us afraid, he encountered the malice of faction, and all the dangers of foreign and internal intrigue. No sooner had he taken the direction of our civil affairs, than such a tremendous storm of war began to rage in Europe, as History scarce records, which every moment threatened to reach our peaceful shores ; and to prevent it required the utmost prudence, foresight, resolution and courage. To this task also, our WASHINGTON was equal. Steady and firm, against him the whirlwind beat in vain. He was a rock that resisted the proud waves of war, which have long over-

whelmed so many other countries, covering them with ruin and desolation. After eight years more of faithful service; after communicating strength and stability to our government, and exhorting respect from abroad, he once more retired to his farm, leaving us his best advice, and most ardent wishes; hoping never more to encounter the dangers and difficulties of public life. But that wisdom which overlooks all events saw otherwise. The devouring scourge of war again threatened our land. Ambition and thirst of sway envying our prosperity and independence, rejected our ministers of peace, and would listen to no terms of accommodation. Thus compelled to choose between base submission and resistance by arms, the latter was preferred. All eyes were again fixed on WASHINGTON; and much was it feared that his age, and known love of retirement would prevent his adding the weight of his name, to so good a cause. But accustomed from his youth to view the desires and wishes of his Fellow-Citizens, as commands which he was not at liberty to disobey, he again resolved to encounter toil, danger and death, in the distressing scene of war. After scarce two years of repose, he again girded on his well-tryed sword, and with the activity of youth prepared for the worst. That the evening of his days might be glorious as the morning, Providence so ordered that to the last he should be employed for the Public. Such a bright sun of human greatness was not permitted to set in the cloud of private retirement, but shining in full splendour, diffusing courage and confidence among all orders, and inspiring discipline and warlike ardor into the ranks he was to command. Such a life is eminently instructive. Every scene of it presents a lesson which should never be forgotten. In him we behold an example of public virtue. His whole life speaks in most intelligible language, remember ye were not made for yourselves alone, but when your friends or your country stand in need, you are to forego your individual ease and convenience, nay and put your life itself in jeopardy. The private virtues of industry and diligence, were as conspicuous in him as those of a more resplendent and public nature. Benevolence and general humanity ever warmed his heart. Piety towards God and reverence for religion were manifested in all his conduct, in all his private and public acts. Dignity, firmness, and steady perseverance in his principles gave him weight in council, and a right to command in dangerous and difficult times. Prudence, foresight and penetration were all his own. And, to crown all, he was ever fired with a generous love of fame. This passion is so far from tarnishing the honor of any one, that without it, no one was ever good or great, a love of fame built on worthy motives and worthy actions, is one of the main springs of every virtue.

(The remainder next month.)

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TRANSLATION of a JOURNAL of the TRAVELS of Mr. HELMS,
—(Director of the Mines to the King of Spain,) through the
Kingdom of Peru,—performed in the Year 1788-9-90.
(From the German.)

I Set out from *Buenos Ayres* on the 29th of October, 1788, which is in that climate, the beginning of the spring.

From *Buenos Ayres* to *Cannada de Moron*, my first journey, was a distance of five Spanish *Leguas*,—or nearly 16 1-2 English miles, (20 Spanish *Leguas* are equal to one degree of the Equator).

The compass indicated a variation of 4 3-4 hours westward,

From *Cannada de Moron* to *Cannada de Escobar*, a distance of 7 *Leguas*, or 24 English miles.

We were obliged to pass the night of the 29th of October, in the open fields, exposed to the violence of a severe storm. Early on the morning of the 30th, we reached *Escobar*. The reckoning by the compass, now indicated 7 1-2 hours westward.

From *Cannada de Escobar* to *Cannada de la Cruz*, 27 3-4 English miles.

Between the two places, I saw to the westward, a prodigious multitude of luminous insects, the appearance of which, before I came sufficiently near to distinguish, I could not but suppose to be occasioned by some great conflagration on the ground. The soil being here of a rich, bituminous nature, tended to encourage such a conjecture. But, after coming up, I caught, near the highway, several of the luminous particles in my hand, and found them to be insects, precisely such as are commonly called glow-worms in Europe; they were smaller than glow-worms of Europe, but of a longer figure, and a darker colour.

The reckoning by the compass in this place, was 7 1-4 hours, between South and West.

From *Cannada de la Cruz* to *Arco*, is about 20 2-3 English miles. At the post-house at *Arco*, was a fine orchard of peach-trees. The situation was 6 hours less 6 minuits westward.

From *Arcos* to *Las Charas de Ayola*, was a journey of 13 2-4 English miles. The magnetic needle here pointed directly South.

From *Chacras de Ayola* to *Arecive*, 34 1-2 English miles. Between these two places, two of our post-waggons (called here *Carretillas*) broke down. The post-house at *Arecive* is tolerably handsome and commodious, with gardens of peach-trees adjacent to it. In these extensive plains, which are luxuriantly covered with grass, and are called by the Spaniards, *Pampas*, the peach-tree is the only fruit-tree known.

From this place to *Tucuman*, a distance of 345 English miles, beyond which the acclivity of the mountains commences,—no habitations are to be seen. Such, also, is the state of the country, on the left, as far as to *Chili*, from *Buenos Ayres*. Except the post-houses and the families by which these are occupied; the whole

territory for a tract of more than 1700 miles in length, exhibits only a wide plain covered with a luxuriance of grass, and without inhabitants.

The heat of these parts, is, at this time in the season, inexpressible torrid. Did not the luxuriance of the grass afford shelter both to the cattle and fowls, under which they may rest between sun-rising and sun-setting; they could not, but generally perish, in an atmosphere so intensely scorching.

From *Arecive* to *Pontezuelos*, is a distance of nearly 13 miles. One of our waggons broke down, as we came to the last of these places. We are detained a whole day, by the consequences of the accident.

From *Pontezuelos* to *Arroyo de Ramallo*,—20 2-3 miles.

From *Arroyo de Ramallo* to *Arroyo de Elmedio*,—17 1-2 miles.

From *Arroyo de Elmedio* to *Arroyo de Pabon*,—17 1-2 miles.

In the course of these three posts or stages, we observed nothing remarkably different from what I have already mentioned.

From *Arroyo de Pabon* to *Mananciales*,—33 3-4 miles. In our approach to this place, which was late in the evening, we saw great flocks of ostriches, (the American Ostrich, the *Struthio Ica* of Linnaeus) that resorted hither from the more distant and deeply grassy fields, for refreshment and water. Next day, our people rode from the highway into the fields, and found amongst the grass, 50 of the eggs of those fowls.

The sun's heat was excessive intense. Every one of us who were in the house, took one of the eggs. And, though they had lain but five hours, the young ostriches came out alive and vigorous, and ate the instant they issued from the shell, as eagerly, as if they had been long accustomed to it. One of these eggs was as large as a child's head of a moderate size. The young ostrich fresh from the shell, was as big as a chicken, two months old.

The ostrich lays from one to twenty eggs. These are dropped in nests in the fields. It is probable, that, in the day, they are left to the influence of the heat of the sun; but that, by night, the female sits upon them, to protect them from the dews and the evening moisture. These birds are, here, about the height and bulk of a calf: And, in proportion to the weight of the body, their wings seem to be, by much, too small. But, though they cannot rise to a flight above the ground, they, however, run upon it much more swiftly, than the fleetest wild cattle.

From *Mananciales* to *Demochados*, was a journey of 43 1-2 miles.

From *Demochados* to *Esquina de la Guardia*,—26 1-3 miles.—At this last place is a quadrangular earthen fortification, which is furnished with two pieces of cannon, and is destined for a defence against the inroads of the Savage natives. These people, to the number of 2000 or 3000 men in a body, fall at times, upon the weak Spanish villages of the border, and commit the most dreadful ravages of havoc and rapine. By the accounts, however, of the Spanish inhabitants, these inroads of the indians are much less

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formidable than the Spanish Soldiers who are now here, would, to magnify their own courage and services, willingly make them appear to be. In this fortress are at present a captain with his subalterns, and thirty private men: but we found no centinel on duty, nor any appearance of eager vigilance against danger. The soldiers are very disorderly in their armour and discipline, some of them are armed with guns, some with pistols, others with naked pikes and lances.

Ever since the discovery of South America the Indian Savages, have regarded with terror all European arms, especially fire-arms. They continue to do so still. It is not difficult, therefore, even for thirty soldiers, and these no heroes, to put to flight a force of 2000 or 3000 savages, who have no better arms than a sling or a spear, six ells in length, and pointed at the end with a sharp stone or a piece of metal. Yet so expert are the Indians in the use of the slings, and in managing their horses, that on horseback, and at full gallop, they rarely miss their aim.

These southern wild Indians, having no friendly intercourse with the Indians who live in a degree of settled civility, nor with the Spaniards, whom they regard with mortal hatred as the enemies of their liberty, are in their manners gross, savage, and of beastly filthiness; hardy, indeed, stout, and enterprising, but inconstant, and, before any very serious danger, cowardly, and, besides, treacherous, and immeasurably suspicious, on account of their passionate attachment to their freedom.

All this seems to be a natural consequence from the conduct of the Spaniards; which, if it were directed more to promote the public good, and less by sordid views of private interest, might, without much difficulty, bring the treacherous savages, by the way of kind and gentle intercourse, to the same peaceableness as that of the settled Indians, and to the same submission to the authority of the Spanish Government. But such conduct would imply a skill in civil policy, and a discernment into the principles of human nature, which, however eminently they may be possessed in Spain, are unknown in America.

From *Esquina de la Guardia* to *Codeza del Tiguer*, 24 miles, along the banks of the river *Rio Tercera*, this river runs on a bed of granite, and falls most probably, at the termination of its course, into the Great River PLATA or the *Silver River*.

From *Cabeza del Tiguer* to *Saladillo* 27 miles. The waving heights which arose contiguous to this place were all naturally covered with saltpetre, thick as hour frost.

From *Saladillo* to *Barrancas* 10 1-2 miles. From *Barrancas* to *Zarjon* 13 2-3 miles. The river here runs on a bed of indurated marle, having in it great quantities of shells in a state of calcination.

From *Zarjon* to *Frailen muerto* 13 3-4 miles. Here we met with the first timber trees which we saw on our journey. They formed the commencement of a wood which extends with a

gradual elevation, and an increasing thickness of the trees, as it spreads away, till it reaches as far as to *Cordova*. In this wood are but two different sorts of trees; but, their leaves are incomparably beautiful, being of the freshest and most charming green. Both trunk and branches perfectly resemble the olive-trees in Spain; but they yeld no fruit.

From *Frailem muerto* to *Esquiao de Medrano*, 20 2-3 miles. Here stand, near the post-house, some huts of the *Creoles*. They are scattered in the open fields, without any defence against the wild Indians, whose incursions do not usually extend so far as to this place. [To be Continued.]

[The following is copied from the London MONTHLY MAGAZINE for February 1799. We insert it because we think our readers would wish to know what foreigners say of them.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

BEING a constant reader of your valuable miscellany, and highly gratified by your correspondent J. S.'s topographical information relative to the cities of New-York and Philadelphia, I here inclose you a brief but accurate and impartial account of a short tour which I undertook through a part of New-England, in the United States of America, some little time ago. If you think it worthy of insertion, I shall consider myself as highly flattered.

Having previously visited Philadelphia and New-York, I sailed, in the autumn of 1795, from the latter place in a packet sloop for Newport, on my way to Boston, the capital of New-England. There is a regular stage which daily passes between these places, (distant about 270 miles); but as the roads are but indifferent for carriage conveyance, and the coach was, strictly speaking, a heavy caravan, carrying eleven passengers besides the driver, I preferred the vessel as the least evil of the two, although not at all partial to the watery element. I soon found I had chosen right, at least if I might judge from the number of passengers bound on the same expedition. This decided preference, however, was not unattended with its disadvantages, as the captains of packets, in this respect much like the drivers of short stages, never balance the ease and comfortable accommodation of their passengers with their fares: so it proved at night; for what with the few births, and the number of persons to occupy them, I had no other resource than to wrap myself in my great-coat, and sleep as well as I could on a sailor's chest.

On our way, and arrived within sight of New-York, I was shewn the remains of the *Jersey*, an English 64 gun man of war, converted during the American troubles into a prison-ship: she floated immediately opposite us, and the shore was covered with a

number of boney fragments, reliques of the many victims who had from thence been daily conveyed and deposited there. The Americans relate divers stories of unusual severity and ill-treatment experienced at that time by the prisoners on board ; but which I hope, for the sake of humanity, and for the honour of my countrymen, are not the exact truth. In sailing down about ten miles farther, along the east river, we passed a tremendous current and whirlpool, called Hell-gate : to get through this dreadful *Euripus* in safety, it is necessary for all vessels, excepting coasters, to have a regular pilot. The currents here are so rapid and narrow, and are so perplexed with contrary ones, and jutting rocks on all sides obstructing them, that it requires the nicest care and circumspection of the most skilful pilot. During the minute we were rapidly whirled through by the impetuous current, the foaming noise on every side, contrasted by the still anxiety of the passengers, contributed not a little to increase its natural horrors. The captain, though for many years habituated to steering through this passage, declared it always had the effect to produce on him a profuse perspiration ; and related a circumstance of piloting a West-Indiaman from New-York up the Sound, when the owner, whose whole property was on board the vessel, and who had entertained great apprehensions of this place, (something like Ulysses in fabulous history), actually locked up his (the pilot's) wife, who was on board, in the cabin, during the time the vessel was passing through, lest by any conversation she might estrange and withdraw her husband's attention ! Indeed, this place, which I viewed at a subsequent period from the adjoining shore, is well deserving the inspection of the curious ; it is supposed to have taken its rise from immense rocks, which, on some earthquake or other unknown event, have sunk considerably, and turned the course of the waters from their accustomed channel.

The Americans have long obtained credit for building swift-sailing vessels, and very justly, in my opinion ; for in the space of about eighteen hours, we were safely landed at Newport, which is 200 miles distant from the place of our departure ; having sailed at the rate of above eleven miles an hour. This town (Newport) is called the capital of Rhode-Island ; and during the late war, on account of its commodious and beautiful harbour, it was in a very flourishing state : it has since, however, gradually declined ; whilst the town of Providence in the same state, thirty miles distant on the road to Boston, has increased in a proportion equally rapid. This place, though not so eligibly situated as the former, in a commercial point of view, far surpasses it in extent and opulence ; which may be attributed to the spirit of enterprise apparently pervading the whole body of its inhabitants, and for which it is not a little indebted to that truly indefatigable and worthy citizen, Mr. John Brown. At the entrance of the town of Providence a new bridge has been erected, of a light and very elegant structure. The church is a very handsome modern edi-

rice, and the inns have accommodation for travellers, superior to any I have ever seen in the southern districts of America. This state, although the smallest in the union, apparently possesses the most considerable advantages; the farms here are better cultivated, and the lands are more productive, than any I have seen in other parts. It is likewise admirably situated for commerce, lying contiguous to the Atlantic-Ocean, and at a convenient distance between the great capitals New-York and Boston: the climate also is generally allowed to be the mildest, and the peasantry here are accounted the handsomest.

From Providence to Boston the distance is 47 miles. As the river is not navigable farther, I proceeded to the latter place in the stage, and was agreeably surprised to find this conveyance a comfortable close coach, instead of the open, jumbling caravans, to which I had been accustomed in the Pennsylvania and New-York states. I observed also with pleasure the increased expedition in travelling, and the attention and excellent accommodations on the road, a satisfaction which was enhanced by having lost sight of the people of colour.

On my entering Boston, the activity and alacrity visible in the domestics, with the general bustle, and concern for business which characterises the inhabitants, had well-nigh led me to mistake the metropolis of New-England, for some great town of its mother country. It is a prevailing custom throughout the United States, on account of the scarcity of convenient hotels, and coffee-houses, for strangers to be accommodated with board and lodging in private families, by which means, a number of widows, with small incomes, who generally superintended these concerns, are enabled to maintain their families with a degree of credit and decent respectability. This method is not without its advantages, as it tends to familiarize, by associating together, travellers of different countries, from whose conversation much entertainment and mental instruction is derived and enterchanged; it may also be a means of preventing many excesses, to which men are often addicted, in the usual taverns, such for instance as those in Great-Britain. The tables, at the above houses, are well and plentifully served, (rather indeed profusely) as are those of most private families; I cannot account for this from any particular cheapness of provisions, as whatever might have been the case formerly, at present they are fully adequate to the prices in England.

It is astonishing to think of the rapid advance to which every necessary of life has arisen, in consequence of the war now raging in Europe. At the commencement of 1793, five dollars was the general price per week, for board and lodging, but in the short space of three years, it has increased to more than eight dollars per week; house rent rises in yet greater proportion, and if this disastrous war should continue for any length of time, what

With the influx of emigrants, and the necessary supply of provisions exported to the West-India Islands, the above articles will, in all probability, become still dearer. I have remarked, not without a degree of surprize, the comeliness and apparent health of the American men, particularly in this part, the New-England states, which is difficult to be accounted for, considering the great quantity of animal food they eat, and the new made spirit or rum they usually drink. An American breakfast is even proverbial for its variety : I seldom sat down to this meal, but in addition to the usual fare of tea and coffee, fish, beef-steaks, ham, cheese, &c. were served up ; yet notwithstanding the frequency of meat diet, partaken of four or five times a day, the scurvy is not so prevalent here as in Old-England : a presumptive proof, that the clearness of atmosphere, experienced throughout the United States, acts powerfully in the prevention of this disease.

(To be concluded in our next.)

ORIGIN AND PREPARATION OF COCHINEAL.

To the Editor of the Commercial and Agricultural Magazine.

SIR,

I THINK it to be eminently the duty of gentlemen, who have learned, by personal observation, any curious and important facts relative to commerce, agriculture, or the useful arts, to communicate them, for publication in a Magazine like yours,—of which the design is skilfully contrived, and well intended,—the execution distinguished by singular propriety, ingenuity, and felicity. I, therefore, transmit to you, the following facts concerning the COCHINEAL-INSECT. They are known to me, from my own ocular observation, in South America.

The COCHINEAL-INSECT is named by Linnæus *Coccus cacti-canelliferi*. It has its residence on the prickly pear-tree : and hence the propriety of the specific distinction which the naturalist has adopted. The *Mexican variety*, which he describes, is of a flat back, black legs, tapering antennæ or horns. The insect of *Rio Janeiro* has bead-like antennæ, a convex back, legs of a bright red colour.

The *male* of this *Coccus*, is, at *Rio*, coloured over its whole body, of a bright red hue ; has its breast but slightly attached to the head, and of an elliptical form ; its legs of a red still more brilliant, than that of the rest of its body ; exhibits two fine white filaments, about thrice its own length, projecting from the extremity of its belly ; possesses two erect wings, of delicate texture, and of a faint straw colour. The *female* is—of an elliptic form, on both sides convex, but especially at the back, marked, on the abdomen, with transverse furrows ; with its mouth in the breast ; armed with a purplish beak that serves to pene-

trate the plant on which it feeds ; fitted with six legs of a bright red colour ; covered, on the back, with a white downy substance ; like the finest cotton.

The pregnancy of the *female*, takes place in twenty days after birth. An innumerable offspring is produced. Immediately after parturition, the mother dies. For the first day after its birth, the infant insect remains without exhibiting any signs of animation. On the second of its existence, it begins to move with agility, over the surface of the leaf on which it was deposited. Viewed through a microscope, it seems, at this time, a small shapeless speck of red matter, thinly overspread with a downy cotton. Within three or four days, the downy covering becomes visible to the naked eye. The insect, meanwhile, grows larger, and continues to grow, till it is nearly equal in size to a grain of rice. At its full growth, it adheres to the leaf, in a state of torpor, brings forth its young, then dies.

The life of the *male* is of yet shorter duration, than that of the *female*. The young *males* are not, in parturition, deposited, indifferently, among the *females*, but are placed in separate cells of a cylindrical form. The *males* are, in these cells, in the state of chrysalides. The wings soon appear ; and, within three days after, the perfect insect arises to active animation. In a subsequent life of only three or four days it impregnates the females. Its term of existence, is, finished.

The *plant* on which these insects feed, seems to be that sort of the *Cactus* which Linnaeus has named the *Cactus Opuntia*. Its height rises, variously, from eight to twenty feet. Its leaves are thick, oval, of a green colour which changes, in the progress of their growth, to a yellow. They are armed with round and tapering prickles.

At RIO JANERIO, the full-grown insects are, twice or thrice a week, picked off with a pointed twig of bamboo, by slaves who pass among the plants, the leaves of which they cover. But, by a management so rude and careless, many *females* are, always, prematurely destroyed : and hence the quantity of insects obtained is necessarily much smaller than, with greater delicacy and care, it might be.

The insects when gathered, are easily reduced into that state in which they are to be sold as COCHINEAL. From an wooden bowl into which they were collected by the gatherers, they are spread upon a flat dish of earthenware, and in it, slowly roasted over a fire of charcoal, till their downy covering, and all but the *fixed red matter* of them, disappear. Great care is requisite to manage the torrefaction, so that it may destroy all but the *fixed red matter*, without injuring that. The insects are stirred with a tin ladle, and from time to time, sprinkled with water, during the process. When it is ended, they appear so many dark, round reddish grains, of which it might be hard for one who did not know their history, to determine, whether they were of ani-

mal, of vegetable, or of mineral origin. These grains are the COCHINEAL, that dyeing-stuff so precious to the Arts of Europe.

SKETCH of the COMMERCIAL, AGRICULTURAL, and MANUFACTURING ECONOMY of CHINA.

THE vast empire of CHINA comprehends, in *China-Proprie* and *Chinese-Tartary*, an extent of about two millions of square miles of the surface of this terraqueous globe. PEKIN, the principal seat of its government, is about four thousand and four hundred miles distant from London; and is situate in the hundred and twelfth degree of eastern longitude—in the fortieth degree of northern latitude. An empire so extensive necessarily comprehends many diversities of climate, many inequalities of local elevation, numberless varieties of both animal and vegetable productions. It is intersected by mighty rivers. Its level is elevated into lofty mountains; is washed, around its coasts, by spacious seas; is conterminous, at its inland boundaries, with the dominions of various tribes and nations. *Chinese-Tartary* is, indeed, thinly peopled, and uncultivated. But, *China Proprie* contains, on an area of 1,297,999 square miles, a population of 333,000,000 souls, or 256 human beings upon every square mile. The public revenue of the imperial government of *China*, is equal to about sixty-six millions of pounds sterling, annually; exceeding its yearly expenditure by more than 12,000,000*l.* of our British money. The armies entertained in the service of the Emperor of CHINA, amount to the number, of about 1,800,000 men, infantry and cavalry.

Egypt, Assyria, Hindostan, and *China*, appear to have been the first seats of civilization in the times of ancient history. Hindostan and *China*, more fortunate than the two more western countries, had probably made greater advances than these in the culture of the arts of life and in useful knowledge, before they were desolated by war and conquest. In CHINA, agriculture, manufactures, and traffic, have been very long cultivated with extraordinary ingenuity and industry, and with the most admirable success. War and revolution have passed over it, but as a famine or a pestilence—for the present, indeed, terrible and destructive—but leaving behind no traces, save such as must be soon, by the energies of nature, happily effaced.

I. THE HUSBANDRY of the CHINESE is chiefly AGRICULTURAL. They are much more attentive, in general, to tillage than to the breeding and management of any sort of cattle.

They entertain, indeed, hogs, horses, cows, poultry, &c.—The *buffalo* is, also, common throughout CHINA; and asses and mules are not rare. They have sheep, chiefly of that race of which the tails swell to extraordinary size and fatness. But none

of these animals is so abundant in CHINA as to form a capital part of the farm stock, like the sheep, oxen, and horses of Britain. The *plough* is light and small, so as often to be drawn by women. Wheel-carriages, of all sorts, are in proportion to the population, to the numbers of the people, and the state of the cultivation of the country, very far from numerous. The Emperor and the great mandarins use *palanquins*, borne on the shoulders of men, not chariots and coaches, for all their purposes of state or luxury, in passing from one place to another. The people in general, of all ranks, subsist much more upon vegetable than upon animal food. From these facts it clearly appears, that the rearing of animal-stock cannot be the primary object in the rural œconomy of the CHINESE.

Rice, wheat, yams, sweet potatoës, onions, carrots, cabbages, lettuces, turnips, &c. are the vegetables which are chiefly reared in the agriculture of CHINA. The *plough* and the *hoe* are the common implements of tillage. Their favorite *manure* is human excrement mixed with earth, and with almost every variety of vegetable and animal exuvia. They irrigate their lands by water raised from the canals and rivers, by contrivances sufficiently simple and sufficiently awkward: or, they conduct the water in trenches and rills from the rivers, lakes, and canals, throughout all their fields. The climate requires very great attention to be paid to *irrigation*: and they have, accordingly, attained to great comparative skill in this operation of good husbandry. *Hand-carts* and *wheel-barrows* are the carriages which they most commonly use in their labours. For the preservation of their accumulated manure, they form cisterns sufficient to retain moisture, without any considerable filtration: and in these they deposit their collected matters for fertilization; carefully adding urine and other liquid substances to the solid ones of which this manure principally consists. The *seeds*, of whatever sort, are always steeped, by the Chinese husbandmen, in urine, before he sows them; a precaution which saves them from being destroyed by smut and insects. The *rice-fields* require to be covered over with water till the grain be nearly ripened. In the northern provinces, a particular variety of the *brassica*, a favourite article at the tables of the CHINESE, is very extensively cultivated. The *hills*, even where considerably steep, are formed into terraces rising one above another to the very summits: and these *terraces* being covered with artificial soil and with manure, are thus made to yield rich crops of vegetation in situations which Nature might seem to have destined to eternal barrenness. While their crops are growing, the CHINESE are solicitously careful to remove any weeds by which the vigorous springing of the grain might be hindered. *Farms* are usually *let* for terms of three, five, or seven years; at the end of any one of which the tenant is, by the engagement, at liberty to leave his farm, or the landlord to resume it.

The *sugar-cane* is extensively cultivated in the southern provinces of CHINA. *Tobacco* is, here and there, cultivated in considerable quantities. For *land-rent*, the produce is usually divided between the landlord and his tenant in equal parts: but the landlord has the tax to the sovereign to pay out of his share, while the *tenant* enjoys *his* without diminution. The *Lien-cha*, a water-plant yielding delicious seeds, is much cultivated on the lakes. *Vines* are cultivated, not for the sake of pressing wine from the grapes, but in order to use this fruit in its native state at the table. *Plantations of bamboos* are frequent and extensive in CHINA. This species of cane is applied to a thousand uses: and to possess it in abundance is, therefore, an object of primary importance, in the general œconomy of life, throughout the empire. The *tea-plant* is to be seen in many parts of CHINA, growing in the neglected condition of a common shrub. It is every where, also, cultivated with care. Its plants are raised from the seed in rows, with intervals of four feet between them, and kept carefully clear from weeds. It is planted chiefly on dry hilly grounds: its branches commence at the root, and cover the stem upwards to its top: it is bushy, like the rose-tree; and the expanded petals of its flower are not unlike to those of the rose-tree. The quality of its leaves, as tea, depends very much on the nature of the soil on which it grows, and on the age at which they are gathered: the leaves must be plucked while they are still very young and tender, if it be desired to have *tea* of uncommon excellence. *Orange-trees* are very plentiful in CHINA; and their fruit is a common article at the CHINESE tables. An upright *harrow*, with wooden pins in the lower end, is the inconvenient instrument used by the CHINESE in harrowing the ground. The *rice* is first sown thick: within a few days, its shoots appear above the water, with which the field is covered: when these shoots have attained to the height of six or seven inches they are pulled up, pruned of the tops, transplanted into rows, and again laid under water. The mode of conducting the water through the fields is not unlike to that which is, at present, in practice in Gloucestershire. The first crop of *rice* is ripe for the sickle in the end of May, or the beginning of June. The grain is cut with a sickle, not unlike to that which we use in Britain. The sheaves are carried from the field in hutches suspended between men's shoulders. The grain is separated from the straw by threshing with a flail, by the treading of cattle, or by striking the sheaves on a plank, or on the edge of a tub. The rice is cleared from the husks by beating it in a trough, nearly in the same manner as the Scottish peasantry beat that barley which they cannot carry to the mill, before they have occasion to boil and prepare it for food. Sometimes, however, the CHINESE also *shell* their *rice* in the mill—as we our barley. The straw is *chopped* for food to the very few cattle which CHINESE husbandry employs. Tillage for a second crop, is com-

menced immediately after the reaping of the first. The stubble is burnt, and its ashes are scattered over the field. The former labours are then renewed. The *second crop* is reaped in October, or, at least, early in November. The stubble which remains from it is not burnt, but plowed down, to putrefy in the ground. Of *sugar-canes*, however, the CHINESE husbandman reaps only a single crop in the year. The lands are never suffered to lie *fallow*; nor does the CHINESE husbandman understand the use of a rotation of crops, in which one crop may restore that *pulverization*, and that *vegetable matter*, which another has changed or exhausted. Many parts of the empire are in a very uncultivated state. The peasants enjoy little more than the most scanty supply of necessaries: for animal food, they eagerly snatch at the vilest carrion or vermin. Fertility of *soil*, convenient supplies of *water*, benignity of climate, patient assiduity in *toil*—these are the only enviable advantages in the state of CHINESE husbandry. But the CHINESE peasantry exist, in general, in a state of abject misery and want, much like to that of the vine-dressers of ancient France. They take the *fishes* of their lakes, canals, rivers, ponds, and sea-costs, with very watchful industry. *Millet* is an article of crop, of which they raise great quantities. The *mulberry-tree* and its silk-worms were first cultivated in CHINA: and they still continue to be here a capital object of general attention. The *cotton-plant* is not less extensively a subject of culture in CHINA. That variety of it which possesses naturally the colour of those *stuffs* which we call *Nankins*, and is the peculiar material they are made of, grows in one province only.

II. OF the MANUFACTURES of CHINA, many specimens have been long imported into Europe, which have been beheld among us, with universal admiration. One grand object of the mechanic arts is in CHINA, as in other countries, the *construction of houses*, *Stone buildings* are comparatively far from numerous in this empire. Wood, bricks, tiles, are the common materials employed in building. The tiles are neatly put together. The general aspect, however, of Chinese architecture, exhibits but an assemblage of littlenesses. The streets of some of the great towns are paved with flat square stones. The bridges are steep, and have their arches narrow, but of strong masonry. The cities are surrounded with walls, strengthened by square towers, and, in their height, greatly over-topping the houses within. The houses are rarely finished within with a sumptuousness approaching, in any degree, even to that of the houses of persons low in the middle ranks of life in England. *Horn*, *talc*, and *oiled-paper*, are, in CHINA, prepared for many of those uses to which we apply glass in Europe. The CHINESE distill *ardent spirits* from *millet* and from *rice*; but, with the preparation of wines and other fermented liquors, they are very little acquainted. They present their *meals at the table*, already portioned out in small quantities, and in separate dishes, and these dishes piled up, one above another,

in considerable numbers, and in a pyramidal form. *Salt* is manufactured and consumed in very large quantities, in the Chinese Empire. The Government levies upon this article a great revenue. In some parts, an impure nitre is naturally found in such abundance, as to be taken as a cheap substitute for marine salt. The *marine salt* is coarse, and is prepared in the same manner as that which we call *bay-salt* in Britain. *Cotton-yarn* is spun in the families by the *women*, who also rear the *silk-worms*, and are almost the *only weavers* throughout the CHINESE Empire. The manufactures of silk and cotton-stuffs are exceedingly extensive; as the cloathing of the CHINESE consists almost solely of these stuffs; and vast quantities of them are likewise exported to foreign countries. The great towns exhibit busy scenes of manufactures and traffic. The hamlets and scattered houses in the country are inhabited by husbandmen alone. *Paper* is manufactured from the straw of rice, from the fibres of hemp, and from the bark of several other vegetables. The CHINESE extract from the carthamus, their finest *red* dyeing-stuff, and *dye black* with the cups of the acorn. They prepare *snuff* from their tobacco; and likewise use this herb, as well as opium, powdered cinnabar, &c. in smoking. The *Art of Printing*, not indeed with moveable and separate types, but with carved boards of wood, has been long in use in CHINA. It is employed solely as an engine in the hands of the government. Their paper is too thin and weak to receive impressions on both sides. Their *letters* are well known to be almost as numerous as their words. Though CHINESE artists know how to cut stone, wood, or ivory into the imitation of animal forms; yet they are strangers to all expression of grace, proportion, or anatomical truth. In the deficiency of animal fat, the Chinese extract from the berries of that which is called the tallow-tree, the *Crotton Sebiferum* of Linnæus, a vegetable fat, of which they prepare their candies. Many articles of their household furniture, and many utensils of various sorts, are manufactured by them from that admirably useful plant, the *bamboo*. The CHINESE inoculate for the *small-pox* by inserting into the nostrils a small portion of cotton, impregnated with infected matter: and hence blindness and weakness of sight are very often the consequences, in CHINA, of this distemper, even in its gentlest form. They make a *white mixed metal*, an amalgam of copper, zinc, and a little silver, with a small portion of iron or nickel, of which many very beautiful utensils are fabricated. They cast *plates of iron* with no common skill: but their smith's work is, in general, brittle, clumsy, and unpolished. *Gold*, though rare, and not much used as money, is collected from among the sands of some of their rivers, and is used in their works of embroidery, &c. They make much use of *tin* in a diversity of manufactures. Their *glass* is all, or almost all, from Europe. The Chinese discover great ingenuity in the *exact, servile*, imitation of European models of almost all sorts. They use, in their *porcelain*, mixtures of

siliceous, aluminous, and calcareous earths, perhaps less adapted to afford the perfection of this manufacture, than those which we have learned to employ in Britain. Being judges of the perfection of earthen-wares, they regard with admiration the most beautiful specimens of that which is prepared in this country. *Porcelain* is manufactured in CHINA, in prodigious quantities : And it must be owned, that great excellence is, there, displayed in the encaustic colouring of it.

III. A vast *inland* Empire, like that of CHINA, cannot easily engage so much in maritime commerce, as if the sea-coast bore in its extent, a greater proportion to the internal area. Internal *traffic* is regarded, in CHINA, as much more important to the general welfare and prosperity, than foreign traffic. Carriages, stout horses, broad and solid highways, a post-office-system accommodated to the uses of trade, are, indeed, wanting. But, the *canals* and *navigable rivers* which extend, in almost every variety of direction, throughout the CHINESE provinces, afford such convenience to the intercourse of internal traffic, that the want of great roads and carriages, is little felt and little regretted. The canals and rivers are continually crowded with a sort of long light vessels, which have, in CHINESE, the denomination of *Junks*. These convey from the northern provinces of CHINA to the southern, from the southern to the northern, whatever commodities are mutually wanted, and can be mutually supplied. Narrower canals and smaller vessels convey goods and passengers across the country, into the smallest districts. Still, however, this union of *canals* with *indifferent foot-roads*, in a country where coasting navigation can do, comparatively, little, is very *far from affording* those advantages to *internal trade*, which it derives from the combination of canals with highways in England. But, if all civilized Europe should form, in respect to commerce, as it were, but one empire ; then would the *foreign trade* of each of its present principalities and kingdoms, be at least nominally, much smaller than it now is : and, by a similar ratio, the *foreign trade of the CHINESE empire*, may be regarded as being much less than if that vast extent of territory were parcelled out into separate states and kingdoms. Its *internal trade*, however imperfect the channels by which it is conducted, is incomparably greater than its *foreign trade*. Its rivalships of trade are much smaller than those which act in the western world, among the same number of people, or within the same extent of territory : And hence, also, that comparison of things exceedingly dissimilar, and that emulation in elegance and fitness of manufacture, to which we owe the best improvements of our European arts, operate but feebly in CHINA. The great towns are indeed grand seats of internal commerce. In them reside the merchants and manufacturers. There, are accumulated the produce of the ground, the imports of trade, and the productions of the manufacturing arts. From these reservoirs of labour, capital, commodities, there is an incessant *diffusion* of

them, by the canals, throughout the whole empire. *Copper* coins are the most common species of money in CHINA. The copper of which they are made is imported from *Japan*. The smallest CHINESE copper coins are extremely diminutive, both in bulk and value. Silver has become continually more plentiful, since the commencement of a regular commercial intercourse between Europe and CHINA: yet, the value of money is still much higher in CHINA than in England. Nevertheless, the money price of many of the necessities of life is as great among the CHINESE as in this country; a fact from which we may naturally infer the condition of the poor to be much less comfortable in CHINA, than in the British dominions in Europe. In CHINA, the merchants are subjected to many unjust exactions, and much oppression, from the Mandarines. The rate of the *interest of money* is excessively high in CHINA; and *pawnbrokers' shops* are common in the great towns.

The *foreign commerce* of CHINA, though inconsiderable in respect to the extent of the empire, and the immensity of its population, is, however, still very great. From *Tartary*, the CHINESE procure furs, charcoal, horses, and various other raw commodities. *Russia* furnishes CHINA with vast quantities of furs. *Japan* supplies it with *copper*. From other Asiatic isles, adjacent to its coasts, it receives *birds' nests* for the table, with a variety of other articles both of luxury and of necessary use. From *Hindustan*, *opium*, *cotton*, *tin*, *pepper*, *sandal-wood*, *elephants' teeth*, and *bees'-wax*, are imported into CHINA, chiefly by the way of Canton. From those which were lately the Dutch settlements in India; there is likewise an importation of a multiplicity of articles into CHINA. From England, are imported into CHINA, lead, tin, woollens, furs, &c. to the amount of more than a million annually.

Teas are the staple article of the EXPORT-TRADE of CHINA. *Porcelain*, *nankeen*, *stuffs*, *alum*, *sugar*, *quicksilver*, *turmeric*, *camphor*, *rice*, *colouring matters*, *silk*, &c. &c. are the principal articles of exportation from China. Till lately, China was wont to receive more of *silver* and of valuable *raw materials*, for those of its exports to *foreign nations*; that it gave for those foreign commodities which were imported into it. What is called the *balance of trade*, begins, however, to turn very much against the Chinese. And this effect must take place still more and more, till the Chinese government shall better understand the true relations of *foreign trade* to the internal prosperity of the empire.

S. A.

[The above is copied from a late British publication.]

Singular Use for which Hemp is cultivated in Egypt.

HEMP is cultivated in Egypt, particularly in the upper part; but it is not used as in Europe, to spin into thread. It is nevertheless much cultivated and much used. For want of other intoxicating liquors, the Arabs and Egyptians make several preparations from this plant, with which they procure a sort of stupor or drunkenness, a resource which inspires gaiety, and produces pleasant dreams. This kind of intoxication bears no resemblance to that produced by wine and strong liquors.

This preparation from hemp, is made by pulverizing the seeds with their membranous capsules: they dress the paste made this way with honey, pepper and nutmeg; and swallow pieces of this comfit, of the size of a nut. The poor, who charm away their wretchedness, by the stupefaction which hemp produces, content themselves with pounding the capsules and the seeds in water, and eating this paste. The Egyptians also eat the capsules without preparation; and they mix them, besides, with the tobacco they smoke. Sometimes, they reduce only the capsules and pistils to a fine powder, and reject the seeds. They mix this powder with an equal quantity of tobacco, and smoke it. This kind of smoking, is a common practice among the women, in the southern part of Egypt.

The parts of the plants, and the preparations made from them, are known by the Arabic name of *haschich*, or *the herb*, as if to distinguish it by way of eminence from all other herbs. The *haschich* is found in all the markets; and the consumption of it is large and forms a very considerable branch of trade.

Although the hemp of Egypt seems to resemble that of Europe, yet from some of its characters, it seems to form a particular species. The stalk is less elevated than ours, and what it wants in height, it requires in thickness. The whole seems rather like a shrub, the stem of which is often more than two inches in circumference; and many alternate branches clothe it down to the root. The plant also emits a stronger smell, and the fruit are smaller and more numerous than the European herb.

G R I S E L I D I S.

ON the borders of Piedmont, in Lombardy, is a noble domain called Saluces, the possessors of which have always borne the title of Marquis. The bravest and most powerful of all these noblemen was one named Gautier: he was tall and handsome, and endowed with the choicest gifts of nature; but he had one fault,—he loved too well the liberty of a single life, and never could bear to think of marriage. His barons and vassals were

much grieved at it, and met to confer amongst themselves on the subject; and, after deliberating, they sent deputies, in their names, to address him in the following manner:

"Our sovereign lord, and sole master, the love we bear you has inspired us with the boldness thus to address you.—You have always made us happy, and we think ourselves fortunate to live under such a master: but consider, beloved lord, the years pass quickly away, never to return; and although you are now in the prime of life, old age and death, from which none are exempt, daily approach. Your faithful vassals, who will never disobey you, now request, that you will permit them to find a lady, who, from high birth, beauty, and virtue, shall be worthy to become your wife. Grant, sire, this favour to your faithful subjects; that, should any misfortune happen to your noble person, we may not, in addition to our grief, be left without a master."

To this address Gautier, much affected, replied—

"My friends, it is true I had rather enjoy my present liberty, which I must lose by marrying, if I may believe those who have tried it. Another inconvenience attending the marriage state is, that the children we have so earnestly wished for, we sometimes doubt being our own. Notwithstanding this, I promise you to take a wife; and hope, from the goodness of God, that he will grant me one with whom I shall live happy. But first, I wish you to promise me one thing,—That whoever I shall make choice of, be she of high or low degree, you will respect and honour her as your lady; and that none of you will afterwards presume to blame my choice, or murmur at it."

The barons and vassals promised faithfully to observe the commands of the Marquis, and thanked him for having yielded to their request. He then fixed the day of his nuptials, which diffused an universal joy through all his domain.

At a little distance from the Castle was a small village, inhabited only by labourers, which the Marquis often passed through when he went a hunting. Among the inhabitants was a poor old man, whose name was Janicola, bending under the infirmities of age, and could scarcely walk. The blessing of Heaven is often shed upon the humble cottage!—This good old man was a proof of it; for he had an only daughter, called Griselidis, the beauty of whose mind surpassed, if possible, that of her person, and who sweetly soothed and sustained his old age. In the day time she kept a few sheep which he had: and in the evening, when she brought them back to the fold, she prepared their scanty repast, and raised and supported him upon his humble bed. Indeed, there was no care or tenderness which a daughter owes a father that the virtuous Griselidis did not bestow upon her's.

The Marquis De Saluces had been for some time informed by common report of the virtue and respectable conduct of this amiable girl. He had often, when he went a hunting, stopped to look

at her ; and, in his heart had determined, if ever he chose a wife, it should be Griselidis.

At length the day fixed for the wedding arrived, and the palace was filled with knights, and ladies, and people of all ranks ; but it was in vain that they asked each other who was the intended bride : none of them could tell. The Marquis set out from the Castle, attended by all the company, as if he was going to meet her ; and when he arrived at the cottage of poor old Janicola, he said to him—

“Janicola, I know you have always loved me, and to-day I expect that you will prove it, by giving me your daughter in marriage.”

The poor old man, astonished at this proposal, humbly replied—

“Sire, you are my sovereign lord and master, and your will is mine.”

The Marquis then, addressing the daughter (who stood by her father, much confused at this unexpected guest), said—

“Griselidis, your father has given his consent, and I hope to have your's also, to be my bride. But you must first answer me one question in his presence.—I wish to have a wife who will be submissive to me in every thing, who has no will but mine, and, whatever may be my caprices or commands, be always ready to obey them. If you become mine, do you consent to observe these conditions ?”

Griselidis replied——“My lord, as such is your will, never will I do or wish for ought but what you please to command : and should you order me to be put to death, I promise you to suffer without a murmur.”

“It is sufficient,” said the Marquis, and at the same time took her hand, and, leading her out of the cottage, presented her to his barons and subjects ; saying—“My friends, behold my wife—behold your lady—whom I beg of you to love and respect, as you do myself.”

After he had said these words she was conducted to the palace, where her attendants dressed her in the most splendid manner, and with all the nuptial ornaments. She blushed and trembled, which is not at all surprizing : for any one who had only seen her at the village, and the moment after so adorned, must have been astonished.

The marriage was celebrated that day ; the Castle re-echoed with all sorts of musical instruments, and the sound of mirth and joy, for his subjects appeared to partake of the delight of their master.

Until then Griselidis had been esteemed for her excellent conduct, and from that time, sweet, affable, and obliging, she made herself as much beloved ; and all who knew her, either before or after her exaltation, thought she merited her good fortune.

Some time after she became pregnant, and was delivered of a

daughter that promised to be one day as beautiful as her mother. Though the Marquis and his subjects would rather have had a son and heir, there were great rejoicings every where. The child was nursed at the palace by the mother, and when she was weaned, Gautier, who, though he admired the virtues of his wife, and loved her every day more and more, had been for some time determined upon his project to prove her obedience, came one day, into her apartment with the air of a man much disturbed at something, and said to her—

“Griselidis, without doubt you have not forgotten what was your situation before I raised you to the rank of my wife: for my own part, I had nearly lost the remembrance of it, of which the many proofs I have given you of my tender friendship must convince you; but of late, and particularly since you were brought to bed, my vassals have murmured highly at being destined to become, at a future time, subjects to the grand-daughter of Janicola; and it being my interest to preserve their attachment, I find myself obliged to make them this cruel sacrifice, which will cost my heart so dear. I was not, however, willing to resolve upon it, without first informing you; and I am now come to ask your consent, and exhort you to shew that obedience you promised before you became my wife.”

“Dear sire,” humbly replied Griselidis, without letting appear on her countenance the smallest sign of grief, “you are my sovereign, lord, and husband: my daughter and myself are wholly at your disposal; and whatever you may please to command, I never will forget the obedience and submission I owe and have solemnly vowed to you.”

So much moderation and sweetness astonished the Marquis, who retired apparently much afflicted, but in his heart full of love and admiration. When he was alone, he called an old servant, who had been long attached to him, and, explaining his design, sent him to the Marchioness, to whom he said—

“Madam, deign to pardon the melancholy commission I am charged with. My lord and master demands your daughter.”

At these words Griselidis, calling to mind the discourse of the Marquis just before, believed that he had sent for his daughter to have her put to death. She, however, dissembled her grief, and repressed her tears; and, without making the least complaint, or even breathing a sigh, took the child from its cradle, and looked at it with the tenderest affection for some moments; then having made the sign of the cross on its forehead, and kissed it for the last time, she resigned it to the steward.

When this man returned to his master, and related the proof of courage and submission he had just witnessed, the Marquis could not cease admiring the virtues of his wife; and when he saw the tears of the little child which he held in his arms, his heart relented, and he was near giving up his cruel experiment;

but his resolution returned, and he ordered his old servant to convey his daughter secretly to Bologna, and put her under the care of the Countess D'Empeche, his sister, and request that she should be educated under her own eye, but to inform no person whatever, not even the Count, her husband, of the mystery. The steward punctually fulfilled his orders; and the Countess took charge of the child, and had her secretly brought up, as her brother requested.

After this separation, the Marquis lived with his wife as before. He often watched her countenance, to try if he could read in her eyes any expression of grief or resentment; but in vain; for she invariably shewed the same love and respect, without the least appearance of melancholy, and never, either before him or in his absence, once mentioned her daughter's name.

In this manner four years passed away, at the end of which time she had a son, which completed the happiness of the father, and delighted his vassals. She nursed him herself, as she had done the other; and when this darling child was two years old, the Marquis was determined to make another trial of the patience of Griselidis. He went to her, saying the same as he did about his daughter. Oh! what must have been the sufferings of this incomparable woman, at that moment, when, calling to mind that she had already lost her daughter, she saw they were going to murder her son, her last hope, and the only child she supposed she had left!

Where is there, I will not say a tender mother, but compassionate stranger, who would not have shed tears at such a sentence? — Queens! — princesses! — ladies! — women of all ranks! — attend to her reply, and profit by her example.

"Dear sire, I formerly vowed, and now solemnly repeat that vow, never to disobey you. When on entering this palace I quitted my humble dress, I resigned at the same time my will to your's for ever; and could I possibly divine your wishes, you would always find them anticipated. Inform me only of your commands; if to prepare for death, I willingly consent; for I should prefer that to the misfortune of offending you!"

Gautier was more and more astonished. One who had known less of Griselidis might have supposed such firmness of mind proceeded only from insensibility; but he, who had so often witnessed, when she nursed her children, the excess of her tenderness for them, knew that that resolution could only proceed from the great love she bore him.

He sent, as before, his faithful steward for the child, and had him carried to Bologna, and brought up with his little sister.

(To be concluded in our next.)

A SIMPLE METHOD OF MAKING GUNPOWDER IN EGYPT.

BY CITIZEN ANDREOSSY.

THE sulphure used in Egypt, is usually carried thither from Venice and Trieste. The charcoal is made from the lupin, a plant which bears a small bitter fruit, the stalk of which is turned into trenches, and produces a very soft charcoal, which is poured and passed through a sieve. Saltpetre is indigenous in Egypt: the earth is said to be contained in veins, which are worked in some places in the neighbourhood of Cairo; and the process employed in the making it is the same as is in Europe, only that here the salt-petre is sometimes found. The gunpowder is fabricated by means of manual labour. It is composed of eight parts of salt-petre, two of sulphur, and two of charcoal. These materials are thrown into mortars, cut in stone, and rounded at the bottom. The diameter, at top, is a foot; and the depth a foot. The workmen sit almost naked, on a bench. Every mortar contains fifteen pounds of composition, which is pounded for seven hours, by means of a pestle of very hard wood which is brought from Syria. A small quantity of water is thrown into the mortars to render the composition humid, and facilitate the mixture and composition of the materials. When taken out of the mortars, it is passed through sieves, proportioned to the size the powder is intended. The commodity is then grained against a grating with the hand, taking care to communicate a circular motion at the same time. The powder thus made is good.

HISTORY OF THE PRINCESS TARAKANNOFF.

From the life of Catharine II. Empress of Russia (lately published in England.)

IT has already been mentioned that the empress Elizabeth had three children by her clandestine marriage with the grand-veneur Alexey Gregorievitch Raoumoffsky. The youngest of these children was a girl, brought up under the name of princess Tarrakanoff. Prince Radzivil, informed of this secret, and irritated at Catharine's trampling under foot the rights of the Poles, conceived that the daughter of Elizabeth would furnish him with a signal means of revenge. He thought that it would not be in vain if he opposed to the sovereign, whose armies were spreading desolation over his unhappy country, a rival whose mother's name should render her dear to the Russians. Perhaps his ambition might suggest to him yet more lofty hopes. Perhaps he might

flatter himself with being one day enabled to mount the throne on which he intended to place the young Tarrakanoff. However this be, he gained over the persons to whom the education of this princess was committed, carried her off, and conveyed her to Rome.*

‘Catharine, having intelligence of this transaction, took immediate steps to frustrate the designs of prince Radzivil. Taking advantage of the circumstance of his being the chief of the confederacy of the malcontents, she caused all his estates to be siezed, and reduced him to the necessity of living on the produce of the diamonds and the other valuable effects he had carried with him to Italy. These supplies were soon exhausted. Radzivil set out in order to pick up what intelligence he could concerning affairs in Poland, leaving the young Tarrakanoff at Rome, under the care of a single gouvernante, and in circumstances extremely confined. Scarcely had he reached his own country, when an offer was made to restore him his possessions, on condition that he would take his young ward to Russia. He refused to submit to so disgraceful a proposal ; but he had the weakness to promise that he would give himself no farther concern about the daughter of Elizabeth. This was the price of his pardon.

‘Alexèy Orloff, charged with the execution of the will of the Empress, seized the first moment on his arrival at Leghorn, of laying a snare for the princess Tarrakanoff. One† of those intriguers who are so common in Italy, repaired immediately to Rome ; and, after having discovered the lodgings of the young Russian, he introduced himself to her in a military dress and under the name of an officer. He told her that he had been brought thither by the sole desire of paying homage to a princess whose fate and fortune were highly interesting to all her countrymen. He seemed very much affected at the state of destitution in which he found her. He offered her some assistance which necessity forced her to accept ; and the traitor soon appeared to this unfortunate lady, as well as to the woman who waited on her, in the light of a saviour whom heaven has sent to her deliverance.

‘When he thought he had sufficiently gained their confidence, he declared that he was commissioned by count Alexius Orloff to offer to the daughter of Elizabeth the throne that had been filled by her mother. He said that the Russians were discontented with Catharine ; that Orloff especially could not forgive her for her ingratitude and her tyranny ; and that, if the young princess would accept of the services of that general, and recompense him by the

* In 1767 mademoiselle de Tarrakanoff was about 12 years of age.’

† It was a Neapolitan, named Ribas. He afterwards came to Russia, where he married mademoiselle Anastasia, reputed daughter of M. de Betskoi, and has since been made knight of Malta, and promoted to the rank of vice-admiral of the Black Sea.’

grant of her hand, it would not be long ere she saw the breaking out of that revolution which he had prepared.

'Proposals so brilliant ought naturally to have opened the eyes of the Princess Tarrakanoff, and shewn her the treachery of him that made them. But her inexperience and her candour permitted her not to suspect any guile. Besides, the language of the emissary of Alexius Orloff seemed analogous with the notions she had imbibed from prince Radzivil. She imagined herself destined to the throne; and all the airy dreams that any way related to that opinion could not but encourage the deceit. She accordingly gave herself up to these flattering hopes, and with a grateful heart concurred in the designs of him who addressed her only to her destruction.

'Some time after this, Alexius Orloff came to Rome. His emissary had already announced him. He was received as a benefactor. However, some persons to whom the princess and her gouvernante communicated the good fortune that was promised them, advised them to be on their guard against the designs of a man whose character for wickedness had been long established, and who doubtless had too much reason to remain faithful to the empress to think of conspiring against her. Far from profiting by this good counsel, the princess was so imprudently frank as to speak of it to Alexius Orloff, who with great ease delivered his justification, and thenceforth threw a deeper shade of dissimulation and address into his speeches and behaviour. Not satisfied with fanning the ambition of the young Russian, he put on the semblance of a passion for her, and succeeded so far as to inspire her with a true one. So soon as he was assured of it, he conjured her to enter into an union with him by the most sacred ties. She unhappily consented; and it was even with joy that the poor unfortunate lady promised to solemnize a marriage which must consummate her ruin. She thought that the title of spouse of count Alexius Orloff would shelter her invincibly from those treacheries which she was taught to apprehend. She entertained not the least suspicion that a man could make religion and the most sacred titles subservient to the destruction of an innocent victim. But, alas, was any religion, was any title sacred to the barbarian into whose snares she had fallen? He who could strangle the unfortunate Peter III. could he dread to dishonour the daughter of Elizabeth? *

'Feigning a desire that the marriage ceremony should be performed according to the ritual of the greek church, he suborned subaltern villains to disguise themselves as priests and lawyers. Thus profanation was combined with imposture against the unprotected and too confident Tarrakanoff.

* The fate of the young Tarrakanoff may be compared to that of the daughter of Sejanus: "... a carnifice laqueum iuxta compressam ..." Tacit. Ann. lib. v.'

'When Alexius Orloff was become the husband or rather the ravisher of this unhappy princess, he represented to her that their stay at Rome exposed her to too close observation, and that it would be advisable for her to go to some other city of Italy, to wait for the breaking out of the conspiracy that was to call her to the throne. Believing this advice to be dictated by love and prudence, she answered that she would follow him wherever he chose to conduct her. He brought her immediately to Pisa, where he had previously hired a magnificent palace. There he continued to treat her with marks of tenderness and respect. But he permitted none to come near her except persons who were entirely at his devotion; and when she went to the play or to the public promenades, he accompanied her always himself.

'The division of the Russian squadron under the command of admiral Greig, had just entered the port of Leghorn. On relating this news to the princess, Alexius Orloff told her that his presence was necessary at Leghorn for the purpose of giving some orders, and offered to take her with him. To this she the more readily consented, as she had heard much talk of the beauty of the port of Leghorn and the magnificence of the Russian ships. Imprudent lady! the nearer she approached the catastrophe of the plot, the more she trusted to the tenderness and the sincerity of her faithless betrayer.

'She departed from Pisa with her customary attendance. On arriving at Leghorn, she landed at the house of the English consul, who had prepared for her a suitable apartment, and who received her with the marks of the profoundest respect. Several ladies* were early in making their visits, and sedulously attended her on all occasions. She saw herself presently surrounded by a numerous court, eager to be beforehand with all her desires; and seeming to make it their only study incessantly to procure her some new entertainment. Whenever she went out, the people ran in her way. At the theatre all eyes were directed to her box. All circumstances conspired to lull her into a fatal security. All tended to dispel the idea of any danger at hand.

'It is doubtless impossible to believe that an English consul, an English admiral, and ladies of their family or acquaintance, could be so base, so inhuman, as to draw into the snare, by deceitful respect and caresses, a victim whose youth, whose beauty, whose innocence, was capable of affecting the most insensible heart. It is not to be imagined that they were in any degree privy to the plot contrived against her, and that they studiously inspired her with confidence only the more infallibly to betray her.'—

'The young Tarrakanoff was so far from suspecting her unfor-

* It is a mistake that the lady of admiral Greig was among them. Mrs. Greig did not accompany her husband on the voyage, but remained the whole time of his absence at St. Petersburg.'

fortunate situation, that, after having passed several days in a round of amusements and dissipation, she asked of herself to be shewn the Russian fleet. The idea was applauded. The necessary orders were immediately given; and the next day, on rising from table, every thing was ready at the water side for receiving the princess. On her coming down, she was handed into a boat with magnificent awnings. The consul, and several ladies, seated themselves with her. A second boat conveyed vice-admiral Greig and count Alexius Orloff; and a third, filled with Russian and English officers, closed the procession. The boats put off from shore in sight of an immense multitude of people, and were received by the fleet, with a band of music, salutes of artillery and repeated huzzas. As the princess came alongside the ship of which she was to go on board, a splendid chair was let down from the yard, in which being seated, she was hoisted upon deck; and it was observed to her, that these were particular honours paid to her rank.

‘But no sooner was she on board than she was handcuffed. In vain she implored for pity of the cruel betrayer, whom she still called her husband. In vain she threw herself at his feet, and watered them with her tears. No answer was even vouchsafed to her lamentations. She was carried down into the hold; and the next day the vessel set sail for Russia.

‘On arriving at Petersburg, the young victim was shut up in the fortress: and what became of her afterwards was never known.’*

Curious ANECDOTES of the Antiquity and Use of BEDS.

IT was universally the practice, in the first ages, for mankind to sleep upon skins of beasts. It was originally the custom of the Greeks and Romans. It was particularly the custom of the ancient Britons before the Roman invasion; and these skins were spread on the floor of their apartments. Afterward they were

‘* It was affirmed by some, that the waters of the Neva, six years afterwards, put an end to her misfortunes, by drowning her in the prison, in the inundation of 1777. On the 10th of Sept. of that year, a wind at S. S. W. raised the waters of the gulph of Finland towards the Neva, with a violence so extraordinary that it swelled that river to the height of ten feet above its level, and drove many vessels on shore. The author of the interesting “Memoirs secret sur l’Italie,” who some time since printed a part of these particulars, surmises that the young Tarrakanoff fell in prison by the hands of the executioner. The truth is, the grounds are but very slight for rendering credible either the one or the other account.’

changed for loose rushes and heather, as the Welch a few years ago lay on the former, and the highlanders of Scotland sleep on the latter to this present moment. In process of time, the Romans suggested to the interior Britons the use, and the introduction of agriculture, supplied them with the means, of the neater convenience of straw beds. The beds of the Roman gentry at this period were generally filled with feathers, and those of the inns with the soft down of reeds. But for many ages the beds of the Italians had been constantly composed of straw; it still formed those of the soldiers and officers at the conquest of Lancashire; and from both, our countrymen learnt their use. But it appears to have been taken up only by the gentlemen, as the common Welch had their beds thinly stuffed with rushes as late as the conclusion of the 12th century; and with the gentlemen it continued many ages afterwards. Straw was used even in the royal chambers of England as late as the close of the 13th. Most of the peasants about Manchester lie on chaff at present, as do likewise the common people all over Scotland: in the Highlands heath also is very generally used as bedding even by the gentry; and the repose on a heath bed has been celebrated by travellers as a peculiar luxury, superior to that yielded by down: in France and Italy, straw beds remain general to this day. But after the above period, beds were no longer suffered to rest upon the ground. The better mode, that had anciently prevailed in the east, and long before been introduced into Italy, was adopted in Britain; and they were now mounted on pedestals. This, however, was equally confined to the gentlemen. The bed still continued on the floor among the common people. And the gross custom, that had prevailed from the beginning, was retained by the lower Britons to the last; and these ground-beds were laid along the walls of their houses, and formed one common dormitory for all the members of the family. The fashion continued universally among the inferior ranks of the Welch within these four or five ages, and with the more uncivilized part of the Highlanders down to our own time. And even at no great distance from Manchester, in the neighboring Buxton, and within these 60 or 70 years, the persons that repaired to the bath are all said to have slept in one long chamber together; the upper part being allotted to the ladies, and the lower to the gentlemen, and only partitioned from each other by a curtain.

The dining or discubitory beds, on which the ancients lay at meals, were four or five feet high. Three of these beds were ordinarily ranged by a square table [whence both the table and the room where they eat were called *triclinium*] in such a manner, that one of the sides of the table remained open and accessible to the waiters. Each bed would hold three or four, rarely five persons. These beds were unknown before the second Punic war; the Romans, till then, sat down to eat on plain wooden benches, in imitation of the heroes of Homer, or as Varro expresses it, af-

ter the manner of the Lacedemonians and Cretans ; Scipio Africanus first made an innovation : he had brought from Carthage some of these little beds called *punicani*, or *archaici* ; being of a wood common enough, very low, stuffed only with straw or hay, and covered with goats or sheeps skins, *haedinis pellibus strati*. In reality, there was no great difference, as to delicacy, between these new beds, and the ancient benches ; but the custom of frequent bathing, which began then to obtain, by softening and relaxing the body, put men on trying to rest themselves more commodiously by lying along than by sitting down. For the ladies, it did not seem at first consistent with their modesty to adopt the mode of lying ; accordingly they kept to the old custom all the time of the commonwealth ; but, from the first Cæsars, they eat on their beds. For the youth, who had not yet put on the *toga virilis*, they were long kept to the ancient discipline. When they were admitted to table, they only sat on the edge of the beds of their nearest relations. Never, says Suetonius, did the young Cæsars, Caius and Lucius, eat at the table of Augustus : but they were set *in imo loco*, or, as Tacitus expresses it, *ad lecti fulcra*. From the greatest simplicity, the Romans by degrees carried their dining beds to the most surprising magnificence. Pliny assures us it was no new thing to see them covered over with plates of silver, adorned with the softest mats, and the richest counterpanes. Lampridius, speaking of Heliogabulus, says, he had beds of solid silver, *solido argento habuit lectos & tricliniarios, & cubiculares*. We may add, that Pompey, in his third triumph, brought in beds of gold.—The Romans had also beds whereon they studied, and beds whereon the dead were carried to the funeral piles.

From a British publication.

ILL-FATED FAMILIES.

SUCH remarkable ill-fate has attended some families, that none of the elder branches have escaped a violent end. The successors of Charlemain, in his French dominions, were examples of a melancholy destiny. His son, Louis the Debonair, died for want of food, in consequence of a superstitious panic. His successor, Charles the Bald, was poisoned by his physician. The son of Charles, Louis the Stutterer, fell also by poison. Charles king of Aquitain, brother to Louis, met with his death by the ridiculous circumstance of being desperately wounded on the head by a lord, named Albuin, whom he was endeavouring, by way of frolic, to terrify in disguise. Nor less strange, though rather more picturesque, was the cause of destruction to Louis III. successor to Louis the Stutterer. This gallant prince, having cast his eyes on a handsome girl (the daughter of a citizen

named Germond) as he was riding through the streets of Tours, pursued her instantly with infinite agility. The terrified girl took refuge in a house, and the king more attentive to her charms than to the size of the gateway, attempting to force his horse after her, broke his back and died. He was succeeded by Charlemain, who fell by an ill-directed spear, thrown by his own servant at a wild boar, although the dying prince had the generosity to charge the beast with his death. Charles the Simple died in prison, of penury and despair. Louis the Stranger, who succeeded him, was bruised to death as he was hunting. Lotharius and Louis V. the two last kings of the race of Charlemain, were both poisoned by their wives, to whose little indiscretions they had paid too much attention.

Of the whole line, after a revolution of 230 years, there now remained only Charles, duke of Lorrain, and he, after an ineffectual struggle in defence of his rights, against the ambitious and active Hugh Caper, sunk beneath the fortune of his antagonist; and ended his life, and the family of Charlemain, in a lonely prison.

It is an observation of the French historians, that the epithets given to the princes of Charlemain's race, were almost all, expressive of the contemptuous light in which that family was held by the people over whom it reigned.

In our own island we can produce, in the royal line of Stuart, a race as steadily unfortunate as ever were recorded in history. Their misfortunes have continued, with unabated succession, during 390 years.

Robert III. broke his heart, because his eldest son Robert was starved to death, and his youngest, James, was made a captive.

James I. after having beheaded three of his nearest kindred, was assassinated by his own uncle, who was tormented to death for it.

James II. was slain by the bursting of a piece of ordnance.

James III. when flying from the field of battle, was thrown from his horse, and murdered in a cottage, into which he had been carried for assistance.

James IV. fell in Flodde n Feld.

James V. died of grief, for the wilful ruin of his army at Solwry Moss.

Henry Stuart, lord Darnley, was assassinated, and then blown up in his palace.

Mary Stuart was beheaded in England.

James I. and VI. died not without suspicion of being poisoned by lord Buckingham.

Charles I. was beheaded at Whitehall.

Charles II. was exiled for many years.

James II. lost his crown, and died in banishment.

Anne, after a reign which, though glorious, was rendered un-

happy by party disputes, died of a broken heart, occasioned by the quarrels of her favoured servants.

The posterity of James II. have remained wretched wanderers in foreign countries.

THE BLACK HOLE *At Calcutta.*

The following affecting account of the cruelties exercised by an Indian Nabob on the gentlemen of the English factory at Calcutta, in 1756, is extracted from the second volume of the history of the Military transactions of the British nation in Indostan, by Mr. Orm, historiographer to the East India company, just published in Britain.

AT five in the afternoon, the Nabob entered the fort, accompanied by his general, Meer Jaffier, and most of the officers of his army. He immediately ordered Omichund and Kisiendass to be brought before him, and received them with civility; and having bid some officers go and take possession of the company's treasure, he proceeded to the principal apartment of the factory, where he sat in state, and received the compliments of his court and attendants, in magnificent expressions of his prowess and good fortune. Soon after he sent for Mr. Holwell, to whom he expressed much resentment at the presumption of the English in daring to defend the fort, and much dissatisfaction at the smallness of the sum found in the treasury, which did not exceed 50,000 rupees. Mr. Holwell had two other conferences with him on this subject before seven o'clock, when the Nabob dismissed him with repeated assurances, on the word of a soldier, that he should suffer no harm.

Mr. Holwell, returning to his unfortunate companions, found them assembled and surrounded by a strong guard. Several buildings on the north and south sides of the fort were already in flames, which approached with so thick a smoke on either hand, that the prisoners imagined their enemies had caused this conflagration, in order to suffocate them between two fires. On each side of the eastern gate of the fort extended a range of chambers, adjoining to the curtain; and before the chambers, a varanda, or open gallery; it was of arched masonry, and intended to shelter the soldiers from the sun and rain; but being low almost totally obstructed the chambers behind from the light: and whilst some of the guards were looking at other parts of the factory for proper places to confine the prisoners during the night, the rest ordered them to assemble in ranks under the varanda, on the right hand of the gate way: where they remained for some time with so little suspicion of their impending fate, that they laughed among themselves with conjecturing what they

ould next be ordered to do. About eight o'clock those who had been sent to examine the rooms, reported that they found none fit for the purpose. On which the principal officer commanded the prisoners to go into one of the rooms which stood behind them along the varanda. It was the common dungeon of the garrison, who used to call it the black hole. Many of the prisoners knowing the place, began to expostulate; upon which the officer ordered his men to cut down them that hesitated; on which the prisoners obeyed. But before all were within, the room was so thronged, that the last entered with difficulty. The guard immediately closed and locked the door, confining 146 persons in a room not 20 feet square, with only two small windows, and these obstructed by the varanda.

It was the hottest season of the year, and the night uncommonly sultry even at this season. The excessive pressure of their bodies against one another, and the intolerable heat which prevailed as soon as the door was shut, convinced the prisoners that it was impossible to live through the night in this horrible confinement; and violent attempts were immediately made to force the door, but without effect for it opened inward; on which many began to give a loose to rage.

Mr. Holwell, who had placed himself at one of the windows, exhorted them to remain composed both in body and mind as the only means of surviving the night and his remonstrances produced a short interval of quiet; during which he applied to an old Jemautdar, who bore some marks of humanity in his countenance, promising to give him a thousand rupees in the morning, if he would separate the prisoners into two chambers. The old man went to try; but, returning in a few minuits, said it was impossible; when Mr. Holwell offered him a larger sum—on which he retired once more, and returned with the fatal sentence that no relief could be expected, because the Nabob was a sleep, and no one dared to wake him.

In the mean time, every minute had increased their sufferings. The first effect of their confinement was a profuse and continued sweat, which soon produced intolerable thirst, succeeded by excruciating pains in the breast, with difficulty of breathing, little short of suffocation. Various means were tried to have more room and air—every one stripped off his clothes; every hat was put in motion—and these methods affording no relief, it was proposed that they should all sit down on their hams at the same time and after remaining a little while in this posture, rise together. This fatal expedient was thrice repeated before they had been confined an hour; and every time several, unable to rear themselves up again, fell, and were trampled to death by their companions. Attempts were again made to force the door; which, failing as before, redoubled their rage—but the thirst increasing, nothing but water! water! became soon the general cry. The good Jemautdar immediately ordered some skins of water to be

brought to the windows ; but instead of relief his benevolence became a new cause of destruction, for the sight of the water threw every one into such excessive agitations and ravings, that unable to resist this violent impulse of nature, none could wait to be regularly served—but each with the utmost ferocity battled against those who were likely to get it before him ; and in these conflicts many were either pressed to death by the efforts of others, or suffocated by their own.

This scene, instead of producing compassion in the guards without, only excited their mirth and they held up lights to the bars, in order to have the diabolical satisfaction of seeing the deplorable condition of the sufferers within ; who finding it impossible to get any water while it was thus furiously disputed, at length suffered those who were nearest to the windows, to convey it in their hats to those behind them. It proved no relief to their thirst, or other sufferings ; for the fever increased every moment with the encreasing depravity of the air in the dungeon, which had been so often respired and was saturated with the hot and deleterious effluvia of putrifying bodies, of which the stench was little less than mortal.

Before midnight all who were alive, and had not partaken of the air at the windows, were either in a lethargic stupefaction, or raging with delirium. Every kind of invective and abuse was uttered in hopes of provoking the guard to put an end to their miseries, by firing into the dungeon ; and whilst some were blaspheming their Creator with the frantic execrations of torment in despair, heaven was implored by others with wild and incoherent prayers, untill the weaker, exhausted by these agitations, at length lay down quietly and expired on the bodies of their dead or agonizing friends.

Those who still survived in the inner part of the dungeon, thinking that the water afforded no relief, made a last effort to obtain air, by endeavouring to scramble over the heads of those who stood between them and the windows ; where the utmost strength of every one was employed for two hours, either in maintaining his own ground or in endeavouring to get that of which others were in possession. All regards of compassion and affection were lost, and no one would recede or give way for the relief of another. Faintness sometimes gave way to short pauses of quiet ; but the first motion of one renewed the struggle though all, under which ever and anon some one sunk to rise no more. At two o'clock no more than about fifty remained a live ;—but even this number were too many to partake of the saving air, the contest for which, and life continued untill the morn, long implored, began to break—and, with the hopes of relief gave the few survivors the view of the dead.

The survivors then at the windows, finding that their entreaties could not prevail on the guard to open the door, it occurred to Mr. Cooke, the secretary of the council, that Mr. Holwell if alive,

might have more influence to obtain their relief; and two of the company undertaking, the search, discovered him, having still signs of life—but when they brought him towards the window, every one refused to quit the place, excepting captain Mills, who, with rare generosity offered to resign his; on which the rest likewise agreed to make room. He had scarcely begun to recover his senses, before an officer, sent by the Nabob, came and enquired if the English chief survived; and soon after the same man returned with an order to open the prison. The dead were so thronged, and the survivors had so little strength remaining, that they were employed for near half an hour in removing the bodies which lay against the door, before they could clear a passage to go out one at a time; when, out of 146 who went in, no more than 23 came out alive, the ghastliest forms that ever were seen. The Nabob's troops beheld them, and the havoc of death from which they had escaped, within indifference, but did not prevent them from removing to a distance, who were obliged from the intolerable stench, to clear the dungeon, whilst others dug a ditch on the outside of the fort, into which all the dead bodies were promiscuously thrown.

WALPOLIANA.

Or anecdotes and sayings of the late HORACE WALPOLE, Earl of ORFORD, (extracted from a work of that title, lately published in England.)

PATRIOTISM OF WILKES.

DEPEND upon it, my dear Sir, that Wilkes was in the pay of France, during the Wilkes and liberty days. Calling one day on the French minister, I observed a book on his table, with Wilkes's name in the first leaf. This led to a conversation, which convinced me. Other circumstances, too long and minute to be recorded, strengthened, if necessary, that conviction. I am as sure of it, as any fact I know.

Wilkes at first cringed to Lord Bute. The embassy to Constantinople was the object of his ambition. It was refused—and you know what followed.

BUTE'S MINISTRY.

LORD Bute was my schoolfellow. He was a man of taste and science, and I do believe his intentions were good. He wished to blend and unite all parties. The Tories were willing to come in for a share of power, after having been so long excluded—but the Whigs were not willing to grant that share. Power is

an intoxicating draught; the more man has, the more he desires.

LADY WORTLEY MONTAGUE.

THE letters of Lady Wortley Montague are genuine, I have seen the originals, among which are some superior to those in print. But some of them were very immodest. When the publication was about to take place, Lord Bute, who had married her daughter, sent for the editor, and offered one hundred pounds to suppress them. The man took the money, promised—and published them.

Lady Wortley Montague was a playfellow of mine when both were children. She was always a dirty little thing. This habit continued with her. When at Florence, the Grand Duke gave her apartments in his palace. One room sufficed for every thing. When she went away, the stench was so strong, that they were obliged to fumigate the chamber with vinegar for a week,

Pope gave her the Homer he had used in translating. I have got it: it is a small edition by Wetstein. Here it is. She wrote that little poem in the blank leaves,

ECCLESIASTIC SQUABBLE.

A vicar and a curate of a village, where there was to be a burial, were at variance. The vicar not coming in time, the curate began the service, and was reading the words, "I am the resurrection," when the vicar arrived, almost out of breath, and snatching the book out of the curate's hands, with great scorn, cried, "*You* the resurrection! *I* am the resurrection,"—and then went on.

LORD WILLIAM POULET.

Lord William Poulet, though often chairman of committees of the house of commons, was a great dunce, and could scarce read. Being to read a bill for naturalizing Jemima, duchess of Kent, he called her, Jeremiah, Duchess of Kent.

Having heard South Walls commended for ripening fruit, he shewed all four sides of his garden for south walls.

A gentleman writing to desire a fine horse he had, offered him any *equivalent*. Lord William replied, that the horse was at his service, but he did not know what to do with the *elephant*.

MILTON.

If Milton had written in Italian he would have been, in my opinion, the most perfect poet in modern languages; for his own strength of thought would have condensed and hardened that speech to a proper degree.

P O E T R Y.

The Puppy. A Fable.

THE Cloth remov'd, the dinner done,
 With hasty step comes honest John;
 "The doctor's man, Sir, is below,
 "Of Madam's and your health to know;
 "He brings, I saw e'er I could ask it,
 "A spaniel puppy in a basket.
 "You wish'd for one of Chloe's breed,
 "'Tis a fine present, Sir, indeed."
 Eager, the Squire and Lady rise,
 And on the puppy feast their eyes;
 How fine its coat, each limb, each feature!
 Was ever such a pretty creature!
 The doctor's man declares its merit,
 "The breed, Sir, are all fam'd for spirit,"

"The little Rover all admire,
 His cushion's plac'd before the fire;
 The choicest bones are Rover's fee,
 The sweetest milk he laps at tea.
 Soon his instinctive worth is known,
 By early marks, his talents shewn;
 Now scudding o'er the flow'ry lawn.
 By scent of game, you see him drawn;
 With nose depress'd he snuffs the gale,
 He barks, he jumps, he wags his tail,
 And each prognostic clearly shews
 From what a race the puppy rose!
 Yet when the transient sport was o'er,
 The fool would try his skill no more;
 And call'd to wait the horse or gun,
 Sullen to corners us'd to run.

"A dog, who's willing to be taught,
 "Is better, though with many a fault:
 "This lazy brute is of no use,
 "Since not one talent he'll produce;
 "Go, hang him! 'tis a cur's reward."
 The Lady thought the sentence hard;
 His life, mistaken pity gave;
 Ah! kinder far to kill than save.
 For, now a beggar pass'd the door;
 A wretched beggar! blind and poor;
 His fault'ring steps with care to guide
 See, Rover to his stick is ty'd
 Through many a deep and wintry way
 He picks his path, in mire and clay,
 Beneath a hedge he finds his bed,
 The wild wind whistling o'er his head:
 Ne'er tastes the dainty half-pick'd bone,
 But feeds on mouldy scraps alone.
 Too late, neglected skill he shews,
 Too late the birds attract his nose;

Inhuman blows that skill chastise,
 And as a beggar's dog he dies!
 "Had Rover own'd the pow'r of speech
 This useful lesson he might teach;
 That Nature's gifts, if you employ,
 All pleasures you may free enjoy;
 Whilst self-conceit, and sullen pride,
 Sense unexerted, misapply'd,
 Insure neglect, contempt and hate,
 And the unprov'd puppy's fate!
 For, ah! you'll find it to your cost,
 Age can't regain what Youth has lost."

VERSES ON SIR ———'S
COMING OF AGE.

BY DR. JOHNSON.

LONG expected one and twenty,
 Ling'ring year, at length is flown;
 Pride and pleasure, pomp and plenty,
 Great Sir ———, are now your own.

Loosen'd from the minor's tether,
 Free to mortgage or to sell,
 Wild as wind, and light as feather,
 Bid the sons of thrift farewell.

Call the Betties, Kates, and Jennies,
 All the names that banish care,
 Lavish of your grandfire's guineas,
 Shew the spirit of an heir.

All that prey on vice and folly,
 Joy to see their quarry fly;
 Here the gamester light and jolly,
 There the lender grave and sly.

Wealth, my lad, was made to wander,
 Let it wander as it will;
 Call the Jocky, call the pander,
 Bid them come and take their fill.

When the bonny blade carouses,
 Pockets full, and spirits high—
 What are acres? What are houses?
 Only dirt, or wet or dry.

Should the guardian, friends, or mother,
 Tell the woes of wilful waste;
 Scorn their counsel, scorn their pother—
 You can hang or drown at last.

THE WINTRY DAY.

BY MRS. ROBINSON.

Is it in mansions, rich and gay,
On downy beds or couches warm,
That NATURE owns the *Wintry Day*,
And shrinks to hear the howling storm;
Ah! no!

'Tis on the bleak and barren heath,
Where *Misery* feels the shaft of death,
As to the dark and freezing grave
Her children, not a friend to save—
Unheeded go!

Is it in chambers, filken drest,
At tables, with profusion's heap;
Is it on pillow's soft to rest
In dreams of long and balmy sleep?
Ah! no!

'Tis in the rusty but obscure,
Where *Poverty's* low sons endure,
And, scarcely daring to repine,
On a straw pallet mute recline,
O'erwhelm'd with woe!

Is it to flaunt in warm attire,
To laugh and feast, and dance and sing.
To crowd around the blazing fire,
And make the roof with revels ring?
Ah! no!

'Tis on the prison's flinty floor—
'Tis where the deaf'ning whirlwinds roar,
'Tis when the sea boy, on the mast,
Hears the waves bounding to the blast,
And looks below!

Is it in chariots gay to ride,
'To crowd the splendid midnight ball,
To revel in luxurious pride,
While pamper'd vassals wait your call;
Ah! no!

'Tis in a cheerless, naked room,
Where *Misery's* victims wait their doom!
Where a fond *Mother* famish'd dies,
While forth a frantic *Father* flies,
Man's despair'd for!

Is it where, prodigal and weak,
The silly spendthrift scatters gold,
Where eager *folly* hastes to seek
The fordid wanton, false and bold?
Ah! no!

'Tis in the silent spot obscure,
Where forc'd all sorrows to endure,
Pale *Genius* learns, *Oh lesson sad!*
To court the vain, and on the bad
False praise bestow!

Is it where *Gamesters* thronging round,
Their shining heaps of wealth display?
Where *Fashion's* giddy tribes are found
Sporting their senseless hours away?
Ah! no!

'Tis where neglected *Genius* sighs,
Where *Hope* exhausted, silent dies,
Where *Merit* starves, by *Pride* oppress'd,
'Till every stream that warms the breast?
FORBEARS TO FLOW.

Jan. 1800.

[The following we have extracted from the *European Magazine* for January last. The Editors of that publication ought to have known that it was not original in their Magazine, as we have a book now before us called the "*London Mercury*," printed in the year 1781, which contains the same piece, and is there said to be written by Thos. Chatterton.]

To the Editor of the *European Magazine*.

SIR,

A Lady of my acquaintance has favoured me with the enclosed lines, which she informs me she copied from an original manuscript in Chatterton's hand-writing that was lent her some years ago by a female friend of Bristol. The spelling was in the antique fashion, which she altered at the time for the convenience of reading with more facility. They appear to me, to bear intrinsic marks of having been the genuine effusions of that unfortunate young man, while his mind was engaged in the conflict, under which it ultimately sunk; and consequently deserve a place in your valuable miscellany if they have never before been made public. If they ever have been published, I presume they cannot have escaped your notice, though I have no recollection of having seen them before.

Yours, &c.

S. N.

Dec. 12, 1799.

THE RESIGNATION.

BY THOS. CHATTERTON.

O GOD! whose thunders shake the sky,
Whose eyes this atom globe surveys,
To thee, my only rock, I fly;
Thy mercy in thy justice praise.

The mistic mazes of thy will,
The shadow of celestial night,

Are past the pow'rs of human skill ;
But what the Eternal acts is right.

O teach me, in this trying hour,
When anguish swells the dewy tear,
To still my sorrows, own thy pow'r
Thy goodness love, thy justice fear.

If in this bosom aught but thee,
Incroaching, sought a boundless sway,
Omniscience could the danger see,
And mercy take the cause away.

Then why, my soul, dost thou complain ?
Why drooping seek the dark recess ?
Shake off the melancholy chain,
For God created all to bless.

But, ah ! my breast is human still,
The rising sigh, the falling tear,
My languid vitals feeble rill,
The sickness of my soul declare.

But yet, with fortitude resign'd,
I'll thank the inflictor of the blow ;
Forbid the sigh, compose my mind,
Nor let the gulf of misery flow.

The gloomy mantle of the night,
Which on my flaking spirit steals,
Will vanish at the morning light,
Which God, my East, my Sun reveals.

THE ABBY.

[BY T. P.]

THE placid Moon her silver light
Shed on yon ruin'd Abbey's tow'r,
When two fair ladies of their loves
Took leave, at midnight's solemn hour.

Maria's form, of tender mould,
Contain'd a gentle, constant mind ;
But Mary's, airy, free, and bold,
Betray'd the spirit unconfin'd.

Often, when Mirth possess'd the hour,
Maria left the board, to stray
Midst the lone Abbey's solemn shade,
To think on William, far away.

But Mary join'd the dance, the song,
Or on the knee of some fond swain
Would laughing sit, nor think of him
Who thought of her upon the main.

It chanc'd one eve, the storm grew loud,
Maria to the Ruin came,
And, as the wind rav'd thro' its aisle,
She sighing call'd on William's name.

When, to bless her longing sight—
To sooth her bosom's fond alarms—

William, returning, met her view,
And clasp'd her with a lover's arms ;

And vow'd the next day's sun should see
His lovely last a joytul bride—
" Shall see me, too, a joyful wife,"
Cry'd Mary : " Good or ill betide.—

" But lest my sex my purpose blame,
" I'll seek yon ruin'd Abbey's wall,
" And see if Henry, too, will come,
" Like William at his mistress' call.

" If not, young Thomas takes my hand,
" And, lo ! to-morrow's golden sun
" Shall Mary see a joyful Wife ;—
" Not by a sighing maid out-done !"

Boldly she seeks the Abbey's shade,
And loudly on her Henry raves—
When, ah ! her Henry's ghost appears,
All pale and shiv'ring from the waves!

She shrieks—she falls !—alas the day
That saw her friend a bride to meet,
That very day beheld, a corpse,
Poor Mary in her winding-sheet !!

ADMONITION TO A FRIEND.

On the choice of a wife.

IF you my Friend, would have a wife
To cheer the gloomy hours of life,
And give you constant pleasure,
The following useful maxims mind,
And you, in time, may hope to find
This dear, delightful treasure !

First, look for one that's young and fair,
With countenance devoid of care
And foolish affection ;
For one whose face displays a gloom
Will make you angry with your doom,
And give you sad vexation,

But not, like common lovers, blind,
But all her words and actions mind,
And judge of them sincerely ;
For if you form your choice at once,
And she should prove coquette or dunce,
You will repent severely.

Her temper should be all serene,
Free from extremes of mirth or spleen,
And with rude flights uncumber'd ;
For one that now is wild with joy,
Then sad or sullen, will destroy
Your peace, with pangs unnumber'd.

Watch how her leisure time she spends,
And if with wife and virtuous friends
In cheerful conversation ;

Or to peruse th' instructive page,
In search of Truth her thoughts engage,
She has my approbation.

When you can meet with such a boon
As I've pourtray'd make her your own,
Of whatsoe'er condition:
No wealth nor honors, then you'll need—
To real bliss they seldom lead,
But oft encrease ambition!

A Medicine for the Woe- begone.

When within doors the glowing ember,
Without, the winds proclaim December;
When wretched cattle on the plain
For food and shelter moan in vain;
When sheep, by falling snow more white,
On the bleak heath sustain the night
When travellers benighted stray,
And wish in vain the ling'ring day;
When ships are found'ed on the waves,
And goblins quit unhallow'd graves:
On such distemper'd witching nights,
Hail'd but by murderers and sprites;
When Nature kindly chains the ponds
In Winter's adamantine bonds,
To save the victims of Despair;
I'll teach you how to banish Care.

Stir up the fire, and close the door,
And light a pair of candles more;
Send for a few true hearted souls,
Who love their girls, their friends, and
bowls;
Then search your treasures under ground,
Until the oldest wine be found;
Air your decanters till the wine
Shall like the sparkling ruby shine;
Thus you'll the tyrant Care dethrone,
And make an evening of your own.

SONNET.

*Said to be written by her Grace
the Dutches of Devonshire.*

BRING me flowers, and bring me wine!
Boy, attend thy master's call!
Round my brows let myrtle twine,
At my feet let roses fall.
Breathe, in softest notes, the flute;
Form the songs, and sound the lute;
Let thy gentle accents flow,
As the whispering zephyrs blow.
Sorrow would annoy my heart,
But I hate its baneful sting;
Joys shall chase the rapid dart,
For I will laugh and I will sing.
What avails the downcast eye!
What avails the tear! the sigh!
Why should grief obstruct our way,
When we live but for a day?

From the EUROPEAN MAGAZINE.

The following Verses, printed at the bottom of the yearly Bill of Mortality of the town of Northampton, Dec. 11, 1787, we are assured were written by Mr. Cowper:

*Pallida Mors aequo pulsat pede pauperum tabernas
Regumque turres,*
Pale Death with equal foot strikes wide the
door
Of Royal halls and hovels of the poor.

WHILE thirteen moons saw smoothly
run
The *Neen's* barge-laden wave,
All *this*, life's rambling journey done,
Have found their home—the grave.

Was man [frail always] made more frail
Than in forgoing years?
Did famine, or old plague prevail,
That so much death appears?

No; these were vigorous as these fires,
Nor plague or famine came;
This annual tribute Death requires
And never waves his claim.

Like crowded forest-trees we stand,
And some are mark'd to fall;
The axe will smite at God's command,
And soon shall smite us all.

Green as the bay-tree, even green,
With its new foliage on
The gay the thoughtless have I seen;
I pass'd—and they were gone.

Read, ye that run, the awful truth
With which I charge my page,
A worm is in the bud of youth,
And at the root of age.

No present health can health insure,
For yet an hour to come;
No Med'cine, tho' it oft can cure,
Can always balk the tomb.

And oh! that [humble as my lot,
And scorn'd as is my station]
The truths, tho' known, too much forgot,
I may not teach in vain.

So prays your Clerk, with all his heart;
And, ere he quits the pen,
Begs you at once to take his part,
And answer all—AMEN!

National Legislature.

JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE SIXTH CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

*Began and held at the City of Washington on the 3d Monday
of November, 1800.*

Nov. 17. **T**HIS being the day fixed by law for the meeting of Congress forty four members assembled in the capitol; but the number not being sufficient to form a quorum, the speaker adjourned this body, till to-morrow.

Nov. 18 and 19. The Senate not having formed a quorum the house adjourned without doing any business.

Nov. 20. On motion of Mr. S. Smith a committee of ways and means, consisting of nine members, was appointed.

No additional members of the Senate having arrived, the House adjourned till to-morrow.

Nov. 21. Mr. Nicholas observed that he had submitted, during the last session, certain propositions to amend the constitution as far as it related to the choice of Electors of President and Vice President, and to the election of members of the House of Representatives.

That having found that they clashed with the opinions of many members and not having then maturely considered them himself, he thought it best at that time to waive a consideration of them. Deeming the object of great importance, and considering the present a fit time to discuss it, he offered two amendments, which he wished to lie on the table for consideration.

The resolutions were as follows,

RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, two thirds concurring, that the following articles be proposed to the legislatures of the United States, as amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

1. That after the 3d day of March in the year one thousand eight hundred and one the choice of Electors of President and Vice President, shall be made by dividing each state into a number of districts, equal to the number of Electors to be chosen in each state, and by the persons in each of those districts who shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most nume-

rous branch of the legislature of such state choosing one elector in the manner which the legislature thereof shall prescribe.

2. That the election of Representatives to serve after the third day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and three, shall be by dividing each state into a number of districts equal to the number of Representatives to which such state shall be entitled, and by the people within each of those districts who shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the Legislature of such state, choosing one representative in the manner which the legislature thereof shall prescribe.

Referred to a committee of five and ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

A message was received from the Senate, informing the house that they had formed a quorum, and had elected John T. Howard, President pro-tempore.

A Committee was appointed to unite with a committee, of the Senate to notify the President, that the two houses had formed and were ready to receive any communications from him.

The joint committee, appointed to wait on the President reported, that they had performed the duty assigned them, and that the President had replied that he would meet the two houses in the Senate chamber to-morrow at twelve o'clock.

Nov. 22. The President of the United States met both Houses of Congress in the Senate chamber, and delivered the following

S P E E C H,

*Gentlemen of the Senate, and
Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,*

IMMEDIATELY after the adjournment of Congress at their last session in Philadelphia, I gave directions, in compliance with the laws, for the removal of the public offices, records and property; These directions have been executed, and the public officers have since resided and conducted the ordinary business of the government, in this place.

I congratulate the people of the United States on the assembling of Congress at the permanent seat of their government: and I congratulate you, Gentlemen, on the prospect of a residence not to be changed: Altho' there is cause to apprehend that accommodations are not now so complete as might be wished, yet there is great reason to believe that this inconvenience will cease with the present session.

It would be unbecoming the representatives of this nation to assemble, for the first time, in this solemn temple, without looking up to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, and imploring his blessing.

May this territory be the residence of virtue and happiness !— In this city may that piety and virtue, that wisdom and magnanimity, that constancy and self-government which adorned the great character whose name it bears, be forever held in veneration !—Here, and throughout our country, may simple manners, pure morals, and true religion, flourish forever !

It is with you, Gentlemen, to consider whether the local powers over the district of Columbia, vested by the constitution in the Congress of the United States, shall be immediately exercised : If, in your opinion, this important trust ought now to be executed, you cannot fail, while performing it, to take into view the future probable situation of the territory for the happiness of which you are about to provide. You will consider it as the Capital of a great nation, advancing, with unexampled rapidity, in arts, in commerce, in wealth and in population ; and possessing within itself those energies and resources, which if not thrown away or lamentably misdirected, secure to it a long course of prosperity and self-government.

In compliance with a law of the last session of Congress, the officers and soldiers of the temporary army have been discharged : It affords real pleasure to recollect the honorable testimony they gave of the patriotic motives which brought them into the service of their country, by the readiness and regularity with which they returned to the station of private citizens.

It is in every point of view of such primary importance to carry the laws into prompt and faithful execution, and to render that part of the administration of justice which the constitution and laws devolve on the Federal Courts, as convenient to the people as may consist with their present circumstances, that I cannot omit, once more, to recommend to your serious consideration the Judiciary System of the United States. No subject is more interesting than this to the public happiness, and to none can those improvements which may have been suggested by experience, be more beneficially applied.

A treaty of amity and commerce with the king of Prussia, has been concluded and ratified : The ratifications have been exchanged, and I have directed the treaty to be promulgated by proclamation.

The difficulties which suspended the execution of the sixth article of our treaty of amity, commerce and navigation with Great Britain, have not yet been removed : The negotiation on this subject is still depending. As it must be for the interest and honor of both nations to adjust this difference with good faith, I indulge confidently the expectation that the sincere endeavours of the government of the United States to bring it to an amicable termination, will not be disappointed.

The Envoys Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary from the United States to France, were received by the First Consul, with the respect due to their character ; and three persons, with

equal powers, were appointed to treat with them. Altho' at the date of the last official intelligence the negotiation had not terminated, yet it is to be hoped that our efforts to effect an accommodation, will at length meet with a success proportioned to the sincerity with which they have been so often repeated.

While our best endeavours for the preservation of harmony with all nations will continue to be used, the experience of the world and our own experience admonish us of the insecurity of trusting too confidently to their success. We cannot, without committing a dangerous imprudence, abandon those measures of self-protection which are adapted to our situation, and to which, notwithstanding our pacific policy, the violence and injustice of others may compel us to resort. While our vast extent of sea-coast, the commercial and agricultural habits of our people, the great capital they will continue to trust on the ocean, suggest the system of defence which will be most beneficial to ourselves, our distance from Europe and our resources for maritime strength, will enable us to employ it with effect. Seasonable and systematic arrangements, so far as our resources will justify, for a Navy adapted to defensive war, and which may, in case of necessity, be quickly brought into use, seem to be as much recommended by a wise and true oeconomy as by a just regard for our future tranquillity, for the safety of our shores, and for the protection of our property committed to the ocean.

The present Navy of the United States, called suddenly into existence, by a great national exigency, has raised us in our own esteem; and by the protection afforded to our commerce, has effected, to the extent of our expectations, the objects for which it was created.

In connection with a navy ought to be contemplated the fortification of some of our principle sea-ports and harbours. A variety of considerations, which will readily suggest themselves, urge an attention to this measure of precaution. To give security to our principle ports, considerable sums have already been expended, but the works remain incomplete. It is for Congress to determine whether additional appropriations shall be made, in order to render competent to the intended purposes the fortifications which have been commenced.

The manufacture of arms within the United States still invites the attention of the national legislature: At a considerable expence to the public this manufactory has been brought to such a state of maturity, as with continued encouragement will supercede the necessity of future importations from foreign countries.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

I shall direct the estimates of the appropriations necessary for the ensuing year, together with an account of the public revenue and expenditure, to a late period, to be laid before you.

I observe with much satisfaction that the product of the revenue

during the present year, has been more considerable than during any former equal period. This result offords conclusive evidence of the great resources of this country, and of the wisdom and efficiency of the measures which have been adopted by Congress for the protection of commerce and preservation of the public credit.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

As one of the grand community of nations, our attention is irresistibly drawn to the important scenes which surrounds us. If they have exhibited an uncommon portion of calamity, it is the province of humanity to deplore and of wisdom to avoid the causes which may have produced it. If turning our eyes homeward, we find reason to rejoice at the prospect which presents itself; if we perceive the interior of our country, prosperous, free and happy; if all enjoy, in safety, under the protection of laws emanating only from the general will, the fruits of their own labour, we ought to fortify and cling to those institutions which have been the source of much real felicity; and resist, with unabating perseverance, the progress of those dangerous innovations which may diminish their influence,

To your patriotism, Gentlemen, has been confided the honorable duty of guarding the public interests; and while the past is to your country a sure pledge that it will be faithfully discharged, permit me to assure you that your labours to promote the general happiness will receive from me the most zealous co-operation.

JOHN ADAMS.

UNITED STATES, }
November 22d, 1800. }

Nov. 21. On Saturday, after attending the delivery of the President's Speech in the Senate chamber, the representatives returned to their own chamber when the speech was again read, and referred to a committee of the whole, Mr. Harper in the chair.

The committee, having taken the speech into consideration, made report that a respectful answer should be presented to the President, with the assurance that an attention would be paid by the house to the several matters submitted to them. The house agreed to the report, and Messrs. Griswold, Nicholas, Macon, Craik, and Henderson, were appointed a committee, to prepare the address.

The speaker read a letter from Oliver Wolcott, Secretary of the Treasury, stating that with the approbation of the President, he had determined to resign his office at the close of the year, and inviting, if the house deemed it fit an investigation into his official conduct.

Nov. 25. Mr. Griswold reported the sketch of an address to the President, in reply to his speech to both houses of Congress.

Mr. Nicholas moved a resolution making permanent provision for the compensation of the delegate from the territory North-West of the Ohio.

Mr. Otis observed that a letter had been read from the Secretary of the Treasury, announcing his intention to resign, at the close of the present year; and intimating a wish that his official conduct, during the period of his acting as Secretary, might be examined by Congress before his retirement. Mr. Otis therefore wished that the letter might be referred to a Committee.

The question was then taken on a reference, and carried in the affirmative, and a committee of seven appointed.

The House went into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union; Mr. Morris in the Chair. The President's Speech read, and a part of it referred to a committee.

The committee rose. The House being resumed, Gen. Lee moved the appointment of a Committee, to report by bill or otherwise, proper measures to carry into effect the resolutions passed the last session, commemorative of the political services of George Washington.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Thomas presented an address to the House, from the citizens of Columbia, congratulating them on the removal of the seat of Government to Washington. Referred to a select committee.

Mr. Jackson moved the appointment of a committee to enquire whether any, and if any, what amendments were necessary to the Post-Office Bill.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Nov. 26. The House went into a committee of the whole on the reported reply to the President's speech. Mr. Parker in the chair. The report being read, was agreed to, and a committee appointed to wait on the President to know when and where he would receive the same.

Before the House adjourned the committee reported that the President would receive their answer tomorrow at 12 o'clock.

Nov. 27. The House proceeded in carriages in a body to the House of the President, to deliver their address which is as follows:

TO JOHN ADAMS,

President of the United States.

SIR,

The House of Representatives have received, with great respect, the communication which you have been pleased to make to the two houses of Congress, at the commencement of the present session.

The final establishment of the seat of National Government, which has now taken place, within the district of Columbia, is an

event of no small importance in the political transactions of our country ; and we cordially unite our wishes with yours, that this territory may be the residence of happiness and virtue.

Nor can we, on this occasion, omit to express a hope, that the spirit which animated the great founder of this city, may descend to future generations, and that the wisdom, magnanimity and steadiness, which marked the events of his public life, may be imitated in all succeeding ages.

A consideration of those powers, which have been vested in Congress over the district of Columbia, will not escape our attention, nor shall we forget, that in exercising these powers, a regard must be had to those events, which will necessarily attend the capital of America.

The cheerfulness and regularity, with which the officers and soldiers of the temporary army, have returned to the conditions of private citizens, is a testimony, clear and conclusive, of the purity of those motives, which induced them to engage in the public service, and will remain a proof, on all future occasions, that an army of soldiers, drawn from the citizens of our country, deserve our confidence and respect.

No subject can be more important, than that of the Judiciary, which you have again recommended to our consideration, and it shall receive our early and deliberate attention.

The Constitution of the United States having confided the management of our foreign negotiations to the controul of the executive power, we cheerfully submit to its decisions on this important subject. And in respect to the negotiations now pending with France we sincerely hope that the final result may prove as fortunate to our country as the most ardent mind can wish.

So long as a predatory war is carried on against our commerce, we should sacrifice the interests, and disappoint the expectations of our constituents, should we, for a moment, relax that system of Maritime defence, which has resulted in such beneficial effects. At this period it is confidently believed, that few persons can be found within the United States, who do not admit that a Navy, well organized, must constitute the natural and efficient defence of this country against all foreign hostility.

The progress which has been made in the manufacture of arms, leaves no doubt that the public patronage, has already placed this country beyond all necessary dependence on foreign markets, for an article so indispensable for defence ; and gives us assurances, that under the encouragement which government will continue to extend to this important object, we shall soon rival foreign countries, not only in the number, but in the quality of arms completed from our own manufactories.

Few events could have been more pleasing to our constituents, than that great and rapid increase of revenue, which has arisen from permanent taxes. Whilst this event explains the great and increasing resources of our country, it carries along with it a proof

which cannot be resisted, that those measures of maritime defence, which were calculated to meet our enemy upon the ocean, and which have produced such extensive protection to our commerce, were founded in wisdom and policy. The mind must, in our opinion, be insensible to the plainest truths, which cannot discern the elevated ground on which this policy has placed our country. That national spirit, which alone could vindicate our common rights, has been roused, and those latent energies, which had not been fully known, were unfolded and brought into view, and our fellow citizens were prepared to meet every event, which national honour or national security could render necessary.

Nor have its effects been much less important in other respects; while many of the nations of the earth have been impoverished, and depopulated by internal commotions and national contests, our internal peace has not been materially impaired, our commerce has extended under the protection of our infant navy to every part of the globe. Wealth has flowed without intermission into our seaports, and the labours of the husbandmen, have been rewarded by a ready market for the productions of the soil.

Be assured, Sir, that the various and important subjects, recommend to our consideration shall receive our early and deliberate attention, and confident of your co-operation in every measure which may be calculated to promote the general interest, we shall endeavour on our part, to testify by our own industry and dispatch, the zeal and sincerity with which we regard the public good.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Speaker, and

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

COMPELLED by the habits of a long life, as well as by all the principles of society and government, which I could ever understand and believe, to consider the great body of the people as the source of all legitimate authority, no less than of all efficient power, it is impossible for me to receive this Address from the immediate Representatives of the American people, at this time and this place, without emotions, which it would be improper to express, if any language could convey them.

May the spirit which animated the great founder of this city, descend to future generations, and may the wisdom, magnanimity and steadiness, which marked the events of his public life, be imitated in all succeeding ages.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for your assurance, that the judiciary system shall receive your deliberate attention.

With you, Gentlemen, I sincerely hope, that the final result of

the negotiations, now pending with France, may prove as fortunate to our country, as they have been commenced with sincerity, and prosecuted with deliberation and caution. With you I cordially agree, that so long as a predatory war, is carried on against our commerce, we should sacrifice the interests and disappoint the expectations of our constituents, should we for a moment relax that system of maritime defence, which has resulted in such beneficial effects. With you I confidently believe, that few persons are to be found within the United States, who do not admit, that a navy, well organized, must constitute the natural and efficient defence of this country against all foreign hostility.

Those who recollect the distress and dangers to this country, in former periods, from the want of arms, must exult in the assurance, from their Representatives, that we shall soon rival foreign countries, not only in the number, but in the quality of arms, completed from our own manufactories.

With you, Gentlemen, I fully agree that the great increase of revenue is a proof that the measures of maritime defence were founded in wisdom. This policy has raised us in the esteem of foreign nations. That national spirit and those latent energies, which had not been and are not yet fully known to any, were not entirely forgotten by those, who had lived long enough to see in former times, their operation and some of their effects: Our fellow citizens were undoubtedly prepared to meet every event, which national honor or national security could render necessary.

These it is to be hoped, are secured at the cheapest and easiest rate. If not, they will be secured at more expense.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for your assurance, that the various subjects, recommended to your consideration, shall receive your deliberate attention. No farther evidence is wanting to convince me of the zeal and sincerity, with which the house of Representatives regard the public good.

I pray you, Gentlemen, to accept of my best wishes for your health and happiness.

JOHN ADAMS.

Washington, November, 27, 1800.

In a short time the members returned, when the Speaker took the chair, and the reply of the President to the Address of the House was read.

The House proceeded to the election of a chaplain. Mr. Dent and Mr. Otis were appointed tellers.

A message was received from the Senate informing the house, that they had elected Bishop Clagget their chaplain.

The election was then gone into by the House, and Rev. Mr. Lisle, previously nominated by Mr. Parker, was chosen.

(To be continued.)

[The following articles are extracted from *British Magazines*, of the dates prefixed to each article.]

Natural Phenomena.

SEPTEMBER, 1799.

A CAT belonging to Dr. Coventry, professor of agriculture, in the University of Edinburgh, lost its tail, when it was young, by an accident. It has since brought forth many litters of kittens. In every litter, one or more of the kittens has wanted the tail, either in whole or in part.

A vessel lately arrived at Liverpool,—having on board, two living Crocodiles: one, five feet in length, the other, six. The largest, dying within a week after it was brought ashore, has been dissected by two surgeons, and found to have in its stomach, a quantity of glass, which must have been the cause of its death.

In some late experiments on the nerves, Mr. *Reil* of Halle,—by pouring nitrid acid, copiously, upon an assemblage of nerves, with the cellular substance, in which they were contained,—accomplished, first, the dissolution of the cellular substance,—and then the separation of the congealed nervous fluid; in consequence of which, he obtained the fine filamentous tubes of the nerves, more entirely free, than they usually are in experiments,—from all other matter, that might hinder the accurate examination of them.

From the Catalogue of the plants in the Royal Garden of Herrendausen, in Hanover, it appears, they amount, very nearly to *three thousand different species*, of which a number have been received as presents from Kew.

The rats of Norway, in the beginning of a winter of extraordinary severity, are accustomed to descend, in prodigious crowds, from the interior mountains towards the sea-shore. Their march is irresistible, and destructive. They swim across rivers, devour herbage, eat their way through stacks of hay, disdain even the opposition of men, but are at last, for the greater part, drowned, dispersed, starved to death, destroyed by foxes, ermines, and other animals, their natural enemies. This formidable migration often takes place, twice within twenty years.

Professor *Creve* of Mentz, has lately discovered by a series of ingenious experiments, that the excitement of the Galvanic irritability of animal nerves, may be employed as the most decisive and infallible of all means, to determine, in cases of apparent death,—whether animation be only suspended, or completely extinguished?—A discovery of very great importance!

Mr. *Herholdt* of Copenhagen, has lately discovered that, in

many cases of apparent dead births, the animation of the infant might be restored by clearing the canal of respiration—a quantity of the liquor of the *amnios* with which, at the birth, it is ever more or less filled. In some dissections of the young of animals which were born dead, he found the cavity of the drum of the ear to be filled with liquor. Hence he conjectured, that it might in like manner, fill the passage for respiration. Proper inquiry confirmed his conjecture. He has, since, had the good fortune to save the lives of twelve out of thirteen children, born in this condition. The energies of nature are often sufficiently powerful to clear away the fluid. In other cases, these energies are too feeble. It is then necessary, not only to gargle the throat of the child, but also to place it in an attitude favourable to the flowing out of the liquid. A discovery such as this, cannot be made too generally known.

It appears, that sea-water, in its spontaneous evaporation by the heat of the sun, carries up with it a portion of *muriate of soda*, or common salt; for crystals of this salt have been lately found at a considerable distance from the sea, in a hoar-frost work on the branches and leaves of trees and hawthorn bushes, on which they could not have been fixed otherwise than by a disposition from an atmosphere impregnated with sea-water.

It appears, indubitably, that spiders possess a wonderful sensibility to the indication of approaching changes in the state of the weather. If foul weather be about to come on, they spin their webs of very stout, thick threads: when the weather is about to be more permanently fair, they make the principal threads of their webs very large, and very fine.

A dog, after nine weeks confinement in an obscure recess, into which it had fallen in St. Paul's Cathedral, was accidentally discovered and preserved. Though almost too feeble and emaciated to walk, it no sooner found itself at liberty, and in the open air, than it set out for the house of its master. After many escapes, and a journey of a whole day, in the streets, it, in the evening, reached his house, in Red Lion Street. Its weight had diminished, during its starving confinement, from 16 pounds, 2 ounces, to 3 pounds, 14 ounces. It is not often that any animal has had the fortune to survive so much hardship and danger.

NOVEMBER, 1799.

We have seen a drawing of an amphibious animal of New South Wales, hitherto undescribed in the works of scientific zoologists. It is of the lizard kind, or at least in its manners allied to that kind the nearest. With the beak of a water fowl, it has the fins of a fish, and a slender body, the colours and exterior appearance of which have somewhat the aspect of the shell of a tortoise. The notice of its existence, and the drawing of its form, having been but very recently received in England prevents our being more particular.

DECEMBER, 1799.

In the morning of Nov. 11, between the hours of five and six, the heavens exhibited an awfully grand appearance. The setting moon became partially obscured by dark, cloudy, spots or streaks. In opposition to her was seen a lunar rainbow, of the most beautiful varied colours; after which the middle region of the air was illuminated by meteors crossing each other in different directions, and leaving behind them long sparkling trains, which were visible two or three minutes after those luminous bodies had disappeared. One of the meteors, more brilliant than the rest, illuminated the whole firmament; and by its apparent approximation to the earth, created some alarm in the mind of all the beholders who witnessed the sublime scene.

The last winter in Russia was severer than any either in the memory of man, or recorded in the registers of that country. On the coast of the Gulph of Finland, very near Petersburg, Reaumer's thermometer was as low as thirty-four degrees; at Petersburg thirty-two and a quarter; and a few miles beyond Moscow, from twenty-two to thirty-three degrees, during thirty-five successive days. In the south of Russia, the cold was also greater than ever was known in those parts. At Nicolayer, on the Bog, (the latitude of which is about 45 degrees) the thermometer was frequently as low as twenty six.

At Corkicle, near Whitehaven, lives a person who was born in London in 1706, and has been through life a huntsman. At this period he boasts of being able, in such exercises, to outstrip any who reckons half his age; and it is probable he is not far mistaken. His opposite neighbour is a widow, of the society of Quakers, at present in good health. She has completed her hundredth year, and can read a paragraph in small print without spectacles.

There were lately run on shore in Tresta sound, in the island of Fetlar, Shetland, 200 small whales in one shoal. All were killed, except four, that made their escape, none of them were above twenty feet long, and from that to eight feet.

JANUARY, 1800.

There is now living at Kirklee, near the town of Hamilton in Scotland, a Mrs. Agnes M'Millan, *aged one hundred and fourteen years!* Her sight is somewhat impaired; but she is able to walk about, and spins upon the old Scottish distaff, with the spindle by her side. She recollects the Union with England and Scotland, and the battle of Killicrankie, in the reign of King William III.

A discovery has been lately made at Columbo in the island of Ceylon, of a rich mine of quicksilver, about six miles from that place. The appearances, hitherto, are very promising.

It has been computed ; that a pair of sparrows will, in one week, carry to feed their young, no fewer than 3,360 caterpillers.

It has been found, that even after caterpillers have begun to make their appearance in great numbers, on beans, cabbages, gooseberry-bushes, and other garden-plants : the care of picking them off with the hand, may be very advantageously employed to save the vegetable crop from the destruction which they threaten.

The *Butter-tree*, which, from a kernel, enveloped in a sweet pulp under a thin green rind, yields by boiling, a vegetable butter of excellent qualities—is a production of the district of Bambar, in Africa—grows there very abundantly—is managed by the natives with a diligent and unskilful culture ; and has been lately for the first time, made known to Britain, by that ingenious and enterprising traveller MUNGO PARK.

A nebulous comet was on the 6th of September, seen by Mr. Lee of Hackney, near the lower side of the square of Ursa Major, where it united with the tail. From that situation, it has since proceeded slowly by the extremity of the tail into the constellation of Bootes ; advancing by the shoulder, across the breast and neck to this figure.

Nothing gives more reality to our immortal Milton's description of those balmy gales, which give to the delighted voyager,

"Sabeian odours from the spicy shore
Of Araby the blest," &c. &c. when

"Cheered with the grateful smell, old ocean smiles,"

than the pimento-tree, which, where it is found, not only forms the most delicious groves that can possibly be imagined, but fills all the air with its fragrant perfume. This singular tree grows spontaneously in great abundance in many parts of Jamaica, but more particularly on hilly situations near the sea, on the northern side of the island. Mr. Edwards, in his elegant history of the West Indies, thus describes it with great exactness : "I do not believe that there is in all the vegetable creation, a tree of greater beauty than a young pimento. The trunk, which is of a grey colour, smooth and shining, and altogether free of bark, rises to the height of fifteen or twenty feet. It then branches out on all sides, richly clothed with leaves of a deep green, somewhat like those of the bay tree : and these, in the months of July and August, are beautifully contrasted and relieved by an exuberance of white flowers." It is remarkable that the leaves are equally fragrant with the fruit ; and, I am told, yield, in distillation, a delicate odoriferous oil, which is very commonly used, in the medical dispensaries of Europe, for oil of cloves."

There is, at this time, a little boy, son to a Mr. Fellows at Wiscach, who though no more than two years and nine months old, can beat a drum to upwards of 100 tunes. So exact is his ear for music, that he will follow almost any tune played on the fife, in true rhyme, on the second or third time of hearing it.

In the coldest night this season, the thermometer was at 17

degrees below the freezing point, and not so cold, therefore, by 15 degrees, as it was last year.

FEBRUARY, 1800.

It is a serious and remarkable truth, that within the last fifty years, many of our finest antient churches have, by constant neglect, fallen down in utter ruin. About the year 1750, the large parish-church of Whitchurch, in Shropshire, instantly fell on a Sunday between morning and evening service. In the year 1786 part of the great nave, and the whole of the curious and magnificent front of Hereford cathedral gave away, and in a moment became a heap of ruins. In the same year, the large parish church of St. Chad, in Shrewsbury, also suddenly fell down. In the following year, the church of Banbury, in Oxfordshire, one of the largest in the kingdom, shared the same fate.

A milk-white cock robin, the breast excepted, was taken in a shop of Whiteman's, Sussex Green, in Cumberland, during the late frost. This *rara avis* has been caged, and is much admired for its singular beauty, and elegance of shape.

A violent storm lately blew down the remains of King John's Castle, at Old Ford, near Bow. This antient pile or palace was built in 1203, and was the residence of the king whose name it bears. It was first mutilated during the civil wars of Charles I. About 40 years ago the chapel fell, and about 10 years afterwards two wings tumbled down. It is now levelled.

A very singular fish called *Barracuræ*, a great enemy to pilchards and herrings, (whole shoals of which dispersed on its approach) was lately taken in a net off the Ram Head on the coast of Cornwall.

MARCH, 1800.

AT Brighton, on one of the first evenings of this month, the tide, though a bright, northerly wind blew in opposition to it, rose to a greater height than had been known, in the memory of the oldest inhabitants of the town. Fishing-boats were swept away from the beach—almost from the very foot of the cliff. This phenomena is not easily accounted for.

A *sea-unicorn*, the first that has been caught in these seas, was lately taken, at Frieston, on the coast of Lincolnshire.

A *curious* specimen of a large bone of a terrestrial animal, from a great depth, in a lead-mine in Wales, was lately presented to philosophical inspection, in this city. It consists,—partly of argillaceous, or filiceous stony matter, deposited in the stractor of the bone, which has lost its phosphoric acid—and in part, perhaps, of a proportion of the original bone, in perfect preservation. It is an eminently interesting specimen. Many important inferences are deducible from the situation in which this na-

tural curiosity was found, the state of preservation in which it appears, and the nature of the matter deposited in it.

A chest of Natural Curiosities has been lately sent from Bengal, by a French Physician, to the Museum of Natural History at Paris. It was transmitted by the way of Denmark. It contains 150 specimens hitherto non-descripts.

Fine Arts, Science and Literature.

(*Extracted from British Magazines.*)

SEPTEMBER, 1799.

In *Bergen*, the capital of *Norway*, have been, within these last two years, published,—the *Jester of Bergen*, a periodical paper, full of good sense and sharp satire,—and the *Provincial Readings*, another periodical paper, of a more light and airy composition, to which many of the Norwegian ladies have been literary contributors.

A royal printing-office for the Literature of Swedish Lapland, has been lately established at Herudsand, in the province of Nordland, under the direction of Mr. Nordin. Lapland never before had the advantage of a printing-press.

Mr. *Brunnich*, a Danish mineralogist of high reputation, has newly published a valuable treatise in the Danish language, upon the Elements of the Science of Mineralogy.

There are in Germany, above 10,000 living authors.

Religious worship is celebrated in St. Petersburg, in no fewer than nine different languages; German, Finnish, Swedish, Icelandic, French, Italian, English, Dutch, and Armenian.

The influence of booksellers, in favour of their publications of deep speculation,—of the church in favour of its sons and supporters,—of government, in favour of all books and pamphlets, pleading its cause with the nation,—of opposition and democracy, for the protection of their literary spawn,—of the religious sects and atheists in patronage, of books useful to their opinions,—of the brotherhood of Grub-street and Billingsgate authors, in favour of their own precious effusions,—appear to have utterly abolished critical justice, in the world, of *Reviews*.—*Science*,—*Genius*,—*Truth*!—go! hide yourselves in the dust!!!—

In Germany, are now living one hundred and sixty-nine poets; of whom thirty-two are ladies. *Gleim*, the eldest of these, is seventy-nine years of age. There are five older than Klopstock, the celebrated author of the Messiah.—There are thirteen older than *Wieland*.

A new University is about to be established, either at Dorpat or Mittau, for the education of the young nobility of Livonia and Courland. Such an institution is the more necessary, since the Emperor of Russia has forbidden the youth of his dominions to study at Gottingen and other German Universities.

Music is, at present, very ardently cultivated in the northern capitals on the Continent. At Stockholm, Mr. *Vogler*, master of the Chapel Royal, has just published two elementary musical works, the first which have appeared in the Swedish language.

Count *Berchtold* has lately published, at Vienna, in the German, Italian, and Turkish languages, an account of the method for curing the plague by frictions with warm oil.

A *Botanical Garden*, which will contain specimens of all the indigenous plants in the Austrian dominions, has begun to be formed by the Emperor of Germany, under the direction of Mr. *Host*, at the palace of *Belvedere*, near *Vienna*.

It is generally imagined that Dr. *HERSCHEL* was the discoverer of *Vesta*, or the *Georgian planet*; but this is proved to be a mistake. It has been long known and distinguished in the Astronomical Catalogues, but from its vast distance, was erroneously considered as a fixed star. It remained for the industry and sagacity of Dr. *Herschel* to ascertain that it is a planet, and moving in the sphere of our solar system.

The celebrated organist, M. the Abbe *Vogler*, a German, music master to the chapel of the King of Sweden, is the first author who has printed in the Swedish language any classical work on music. He has lately published one book under the title of *Principles of the Harpsichord*, and another under that of *Principles of thorough Bass and of Organs*. This last work especially is in great estimation.

There has lately been discovered in the fort of St. Angelo—(packed up by the French, with the intention of carrying them away from Rome) the beautiful *Venus*, from the gallery of the capital, two busts of *Homer* and *Caracalla*, a statue of *Minerva*, two chests of Etruscan vases, and seven others; with curiosities from *Herculaneum*.

The French, under the command of Buonaparte in Italy, transmitted from that country 63 pieces of sculpture, and 41 capital paintings. Among the former, are the following celebrated *chef-d'œuvres*; the *Apollo*, the *Adonis*, the dying *Gladiator*, the *Laocoon*, the two sphinxes, and the tomb of the *Muses*. Among the latter are the principle paintings of *Raphael*, *Perrugin*, *Gueorchino*, *Annibal*, *Carracho*, *Guido*, *Titian* and *Corregio*. In the catalogue of the articles sent to the National Library are a manuscript of the antiquities of *Josephus*, on papyrus: a manuscript *Virgil*; of *Petrarch*, with notes, in his own hand writing; and 500 of the most curious manuscripts which were in the library of the Vatican.

A splendid edition of Buffon's Natural History has been lately published at Paris. It is enriched with engravings, representing the form of the animals described, the colours of which are depicted even to the nicest tints. As the colours are the most distinguished characteristics of birds and beasts, this is a very valuable improvement.

Miscellaneous Articles.

BRIDGEPORT, Jan. 31, 1801.

FIRES.

A most dreadful fire broke out in Providence (State of Rhode-Island) on the 21st of January, which destroyed upwards of 40 houses and stores. The property consumed is estimated at upwards of 500,000 dollars.

On the 17th of January, the extensive manufactories established at Waterliet, near Albany, by Mr. James Caldwell, were consumed. Some part of the mill machinery was however, preserved. In these works were manufactured Chocolate, Starch, Hair powder, Mustard, Snuff and Tobacco. They were very valuable and of much public utility—and were several years since destroyed by the same element, and were rebuilt at a vast expence by Mr. Caldwell

A house was burnt in New-York, on the night of the 21st of January. And a house in Charleston (Mass.) on the 14th.—One of the buildings belonging to the public armory at Springfield (Mass.) was consumed on the 25th, together with a considerable quantity of utensils, and about 500 stands of arms. Loss estimated at 18,000 dollars.

The Treasurer's office, in the City of Washington, was discovered to be on fire, on the evening of the 20th. The papers in one of the rooms of the accountant were totally destroyed, and those in the adjacent rooms much injured. The fire was extinguished in about an hour and a half. The President of the United States was observed in the ranks for conveying water.

EARTHQUAKES.

LANCASTER, (PENN.) NOV. 22.

In the course of the two last days we have been visited by several alarming Earthquakes. The rumours as to the number and violence of these concussions have not yet been reduced to a certainty by the public opinion. We believe the first appearance was on Wednesday morning, about five o'clock, which "seemed like the

murmurs of distant winds." *A few minuits before six on the same morning we had the most violent shock. It continued for about fifty seconds, agitated every thing, and was in sound, like the rumbling of many carriages over a stone pavement. Yesterday morning shortly before two o'clock there was a shock nearly as violent. In the interval, and since, four or five more trivial agitations have taken place.*

NEWPORT, DEC. 30.

A slight shock of an earthquake was experienced in this town, on Christmas morning, between 1 and 2 o'clock. Notwithstanding a diversity of opinion on this subject, we feel ourselves authorised in stating the fact, by the concurrent testimony of many credible persons.

The Dartmouth (N. H.) Gazette of December 27; says, "On Friday evening of last week a very sensible Earthquake was experienced at this place, which was repeated on Saturday following to such a degree as to shake almost all the buildings in the place, and rattle the glass in the windows of many houses. Whether the neighbouring towns experienced the shock, we have not been able to learn."

METEORS.

PHILADELPHIA, DEC. 30, 1800.

This morning, an hour before sun-rise three streaks of light, in the form of rainbows, extended themselves over this city from North to South. They maintained their strength from the Horizon. The bows were similar in appearance, excepting that the loftiest was further distant from the other two, than the two were from each other. There was no Sun or Moon visible, and the appearance continued until the opening day absorbed the phenomenon.

From the Pittsburgh Gazette, of the 16th Jan.

About 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening the 7th inst. an extraordinary light appeared in the hemisphere and continued for about 10 seconds—it was equal to the brightest sunshine, and was succeeded by a slight rumbling noise. We are informed that on the Alleghany mountain the earth was greatly agitated, and the noise similar to the discharge of cannon.

On the same evening, a similar appearance was observed, at Fayette, the light lasted about five seconds, and in about four minutes and a half after was succeeded by an explosion, which considerably shook the houses, and kept the windows shaking for about 20 seconds.

WEATHER.

The winter has been remarkably mild thus far. We have experienced but very few cold days; though some few have been

severe. The latter part of December was as warm, almost, as summer. The Newport (R. I.) paper of December 30, says,—“For several days in the course of last week, the mercury in Fahrenheit's Thermometer, at 12 o'clock p. m. stood at 54, being 4 degrees higher than it stood at the same time, and in the same situation, on the 18th of June last.”

LONGEVITY.

NEW-MILFORD, 15th January, 1800.

There are now living in this town two persons who have seen one whole century and a part of two others, being born in the 17th, lived thro' the 18th and now see the 19th. One is Mr. NODINE, born at New-Rochelle, State of New-York, of French protestants who settled there. He was last from Stratford in this State, where he tended a ferry for a number of years. The other is Mrs. HEAMES who emigrated hither from the State of Rhode-Island. The husband of her youth died here seven years ago, aged 94 or 5. The living of the above persons has always been coarse and simple, and for many years they have been town's poor. They are now able to walk with considerable alertness, and the powers of their minds are not wholly abated.

BILLS OF MORTALITY, FOR THE YEAR 1800.

In the town of Salem, (Mass.)—the inhabitants calculated at 10,000.—Died, males 79, females 78—Total 157.

In the town of Portland (Mass.) Died 110—ten of whom were strangers.

In the City of New-Haven—Present population 4,000.—Died, males 43, females 36, Whites 72, blacks 7—Total 79. Deaths in ten years past 990, including two years of epidemic sickness, which added 220 to an usual mortality.

In the Parish of Chelsea, City of Norwich—Died 38.


In Windham,—died 30.—The year 1800 has been remarkable in Windham for sudden deaths.

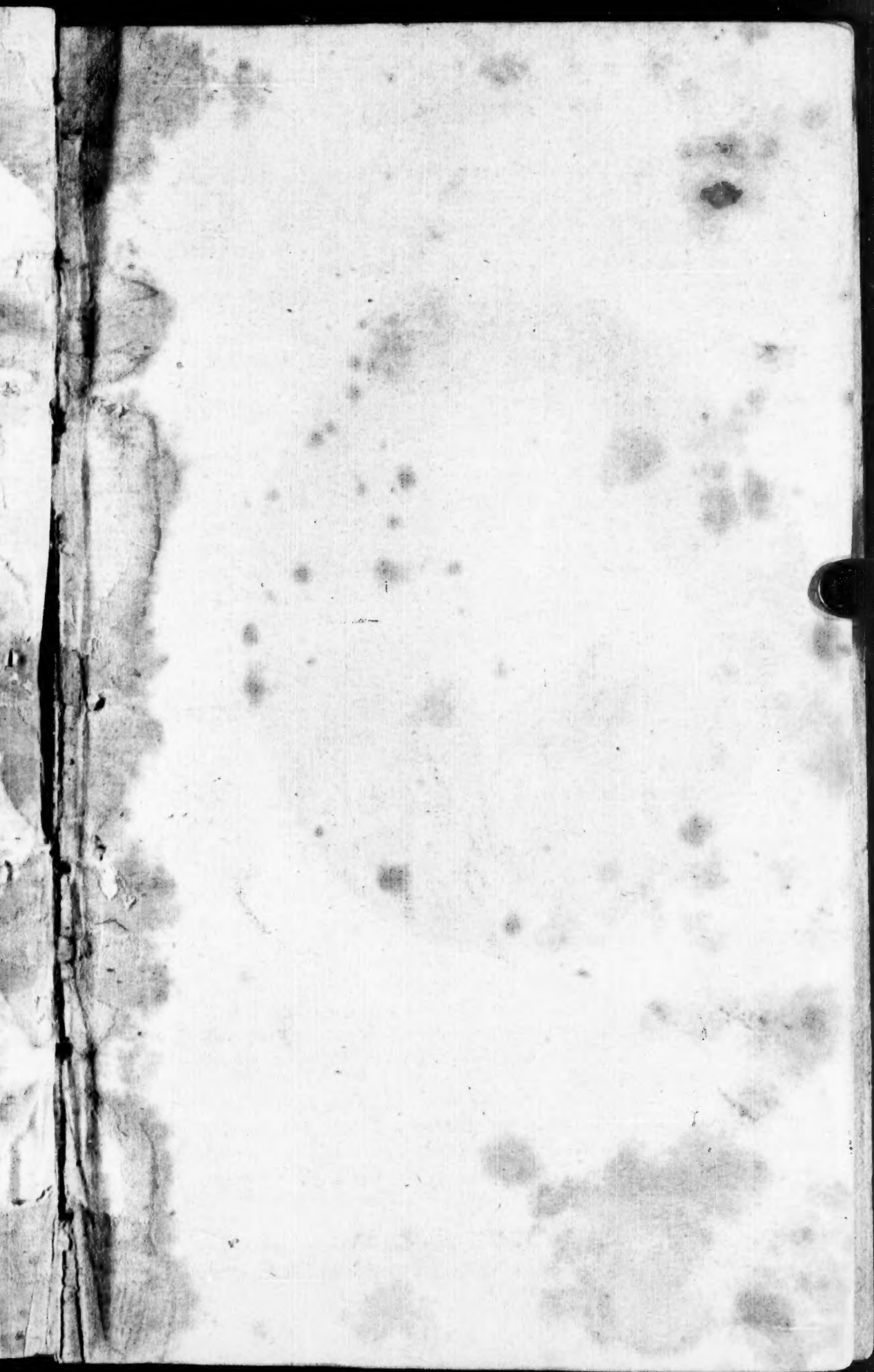
MARRIAGES.

At Hartford, Mr. Samuel Ledlie, to Miss Abigail Kilborn.—Mr. Isaac Niles, to Miss Almira Willy.—At Hampton, Mr. Zephariah Hicks, to Miss Polly Preston.—Mr. Jonathan Clark, to Miss Hannah Blackman.

DEATHS.

At Stamford, Mrs. Maria Smith, Consort of the Rev. Daniel Smith, of that place in the 31st year of her age. At Sandersfield, Mr. Ebenezer Jones, aged 38.—At West-Hartford, Mr. Timothy Higgins.—At Windham, Mrs. Collate Backus, relict of Mr. Ephraim Backus aged 92.

 A more complete list of Marriages and Deaths, from the commencement of the year, with many other articles of a domestic nature, will appear next month.



CONNECTICUT MAGAZINE.



Engraved by A. Doolittle

GOV^R TRUMBULL.